



WHY DID MY
GREAT-GRANDFATHER
FROM ITALY HAVE
RED HAIR,
BLUE EYES
AND FAIR SKIN?



A HISTORY OF
IL REGNO

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INTRODUCTION

I am by nature what would be called "tidy" and "neat." Genealogy is anything but tidy and neat. The family tree always needs pruning; there are battles against root-rot; and weeds that spring up like, well, weeds...everywhere and they take more time to remove than caring for the actual tree itself. The likening of one's ancestors to a branching and growing tree is, indeed, an appropriate metaphor. There are the lists of "Things to do" all over the place, some scribbled so long ago I only keep them on the slim-and-getting-slimmer-by-the-day chance that I will actually remember what the "thing" was so important "to do" that I actually made a list. Notes with names, sometimes first and last even, followed by question mark(s) and the notation "to sister" may have meant something at one time but now it is only a reminder that I have yet to "tidy up" my genealogy.

Take a tidy and neat person such as I fancy myself to be and mix with a healthy dose of love and dedication to the hobby of genealogy and what happens? This book!

Someone early on in my genealogical quest provided me with the only photograph I know to exist of my great-grandfather Giuseppe Maddalena. He died in Trenton, New Jersey in 1925 so its safe bet to say it's a black and white photo. I, like everyone else, live with my preconceived ideas of just how a certain person should be: their looks, their temperament, their intellect and so on. So I applied my preconceived idea to that black and white photo to come up with my own, closer to life, color version; ... or so I thought.

Moving forward through the years it would happen on occasion that I would see the original of this photograph with the relative that owned it. On the last one of these occurrences, the owner stated:

I can still see his **red** hair and **blue** eyes.

What? Wait a minute - he's from southern **ITALY**, not a land known for those attributes, right? And fair skin too? Well, so much for preconceived ideas.

This was not a neat and tidy bit of information.

Shortly thereafter, while conversing with a cousin, a cousin that is from "the other side" of my family tree, the non-Italian one, I mentioned this untidy bit of information and not by coincidence. I knew that this particular cousin would have an opinion and that opinion would most likely be a well-informed one.

Oh! He was a **Longobardo**.

Those two statements,

coupled with my nature,

are the reason why this book was written.

One more declaration -- *Mea culpa!* -- a language-appropriate phrase, for the attempts, perhaps too many, at levity, if not brevity, contained herein. But, in the highly-unlikely event that you, the reader, becomes bored just merely *reading* this book, then all I ask is that you "walk a mile in the woods" or answer "what shoes does a bear walk in" or pronounce, if you will, *ciceri* (whose meaning will become apparent to those of you who suffer through this tome) some other completely nonsensical and not applicable "catch phrase" and try to appreciate the difficult and tedious (and wishfully, successful) task of trying to capture your rapt attention when regaling you with the triumphs of King Theodoric, the Ostrogothic king, and *not* those of King Theodoric, the Visigothic one; or how it came to pass that not one square inch of the *Island* of Sicily was contained in the *Kingdom* of Sicily for a time; or how the "early" (pre-1860) Kings of Italy did not count among their subjects our ancestors, living in and around Naples. Mea culpa!

DEDICATION

This book is dedicated to a thirty-eight year old man and his thirty-one year old wife who left everything they knew – their family who they could not believe they would ever see again; their network of friends that provided mutual support through the good and bad; the rolling hills of the plateau and steep canyons cutting into the mountains to the north; their way of life, everything – and journeyed to an unknown land far, far away with four children, the oldest eleven, the youngest, two. They spent New Year's 1893 on the Atlantic Ocean, nothing but water for three weeks, living in the crowded, rank and dirty steerage class, rarely setting foot on deck. They traveled alone for they were the only family on board from Piedimonte d'Alife with all the worldly possessions jammed into two pieces of luggage. They traded their pastoral life and with fourteen hundred strangers, embarked on a journey to better their lot in life and that of their children. They first set foot in the United States at Ellis Island, the immigration center that had been in use for just one year. From there they made their way to the dreaded Five Points section of Manhattan, at the time called the Mulberry Bend, before moving uptown to Italian Harlem. Leaving the metropolis just after the start of the twentieth century, they put down their roots one last time in Trenton, New Jersey.

This book is dedicated to:



and



For the gamble they took on making a new life in a new world.

PREFACE

I feel I must offer an apology to the reader who does not identify with the group that I refer to in this work with the pronouns “our” and “we.” The intended readers number four, not including their own descendants. Those four are my siblings. At relatively few places within I do mention “our great-grandfather” or the “place that we come from” for the sole purpose of including my siblings as more than readers but active participants, albeit active from a different place and time, in the events that are retold here. Such references are not intended to alienate any reader that is not my sibling, nor should they be interpreted as such as that is not my intent.

The history of Southern Italy suffers the same problems found in most any land. Ruling clans and families arose, created a brilliant arc across the sky and then fizzled out, eclipsed by the next-in-line. The recorded history we have, which is often misrepresented as the “official” history, was necessarily biased by the affiliation of the recorder. Very rarely did one say they were writing at the bequest of or to gain favors from King Luigi as to do so would invite questions the objectivity and accuracy of those very writings. The investigator is left to decide the accuracy of historical writings which, again, exposes the writings to the investigator’s subjectivity. Two competing houses may claim to rule a particular area at the same time. This can be further aggravated by no common understanding or accepted use of numbers as they pertain to a particular ruler, such as when Giovanni became the “first” Count of Fondi after marrying the daughter of the *Conte di Fondi*, or when Rainolfo, the second *Conte di Alife* bearing that name referred to himself, or was referred to by others, as Rainolfo III, 2^o *Conte di Alife* or even more incorrectly as Rainolfo, 3^o *Conte di Alife* to prevent being mistaken for his cousin Rainolfo, 2^o *Conte di Aversa*. And sometimes there were extended periods of time with no clearly defined ruler, a situation ripe for exploitation by families desirous of a more-illustrious history than warranted by that pesky little thing – the truth.

A second problem (or fourth if you consider the preceding paragraph to contain three separate problems rather than one problem with three subdivisions associated with ruling clans) encountered is to be found within the naming of the ruling houses. When a hereditary province was divided among heirs, a change of the surname will often appear. This change may not be uniformly or universally applied. As such, certain “Houses” may appear briefly within a longer period when a particular family ruled. Some of the short-lived Houses detailed herein certainly fall into this category: the Houses of Fiandra and Leonessa are considered to not really constitute a separate “House” per se but would be closer to being a room, if you will allow the term, within the House of Gaetani dell’Aquila, for example. Another way in which the naming of the ruling family impacts written histories is when two Houses combine. For instance, the Gaetani ruled Caserta and the dell’Aquila ruled Fondi; through marriage and inheritance they produced the Gaetani dell’Aquila, *il Conte di Fondi*.

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PART ONE

IL REGNO

The southern portion of the Italian peninsula has been a separate political entity from the rest of the peninsula from the beginnings of written history until the second half of the nineteenth century. In fact the boundaries of the Italy we know today are less than a century old. For the vast amount of time previous to the formation of today's Italy, the southern portions constituted a separate kingdom. The sovereign monarchs, with very rare exceptions, hailed from distant parts of the European continent – France, Spain, Austria and Germany. The name of the kingdom varied almost as frequently as did the nationality of their kings and queens. This presented a situation in which it was possible, even probable, that a mistake would be made, tempers flare and yet another imbroglio would arise. To avoid this, the use of "Il Regno" – simply, The Kingdom – became widespread. And now, turn the page and find out about one of our ancestral branches as you discover Il Regno....

I: PREHISTORIC TIMES TO 290 B.C.E.– SAMNIUM

The Pentri tribe of the Umbro-Sabellico peoples settled much of the central portion of the Italian peninsula. Before 750 B.C.E. the Greek colony of Cumae was founded north of Naples and many other similar settlements were all over southern Italy. By 350 B.C.E., Samnium covered much of the western and southern portions. Samnium was not a separate identifiable country *per se*, but rather an area inhabited by Italic tribes that cooperated in a prototype of a democratic federation of states. As Rome's influence spread and power grew, it absorbed much of the Italian peninsula with minimal military effort; much better to be afforded the safety and security of your larger and more powerful neighbor, maintain your local government, religious and cultural institutions than to be subdued by force and reduced to the status of slaves.

Many “Roman” inventions are actually from the societies and cultures that Imperial



Rome absorbed. The traditions, religions, language, government etcetera come to us *through* the Roman Empire, but not *of* the Romans themselves. The Romans, often portrayed as the valiant and superior force that defeated their weak opponents on the field of battle, were indeed valiant and superior, but in ways that count much more than in military conquest. The Roman people were a people of accommodation; they absorbed much of the good found in the indigenous populations of the areas they conquered. Our ancestor's homeland in the Campania brought the Samnite democratic form of government to Rome as well as the Republican organizing system. The concept that “all men are created

equal” was at work in the Campania over 2,000 years before the United States saw the light of day. The very word “Italy” owes its resurrection, if not its origin, to the Samnites for it was they who adopted the Sabellic *Italia* in their final bid for a separate existence. To be sure, military exploits were also adopted by the Romans and from our ancestor's homelands comes the “Roman” gladiator.

The Samnites became the thorn in the side of the Empire; of the various Italic tribes, the Samnites alone refused to submit to Roman offers. For Rome's part, the Samnites were a belligerent tribe with fearsome might. They insisted on full citizenship and autonomy for their region or nothing at all, an idea as foreign to ancient Rome as the automobile. To Rome, allowing conquered people to remain alive was more than what was required; to accord full rights and privileges? Unheard of! Unthinkable! Yet, in the end ... possible.

GOVERNMENT: Unlike most peninsular, in fact most European, societies at the time, Samnium did not have overlords or landlords as the land was commonly owned and used by all; slavery was unknown and freedom of expression was highly valued, moving concepts of an idealized society forward by thousands of years. It was a democratic republic that spoke Oscan, the dominant language on the peninsula, not Latin or Etruscan. Their urban character developed as they rebuilt and inhabited the cities deserted by the Etruscan. Pompeii is the

most well-known example to survive to our century.

The borders of Samnium were determined by sheep, or to be more exact, by sheep trails, not warriors. The wild herds created a network of trails in the search for pasture. The *sacra*, or “sacred one,” controlled the migrations which took on religious overtones. This sacred one was, in fact, the shepherd guiding his flock to greener pastures – the analogy to religion is readily apparent. Maintaining control of the all-important trails, or *tratturi*, determined the success and growth of the community. Sheep-herding was the most important factor in determining survival and wool was, logically, the material of choice. Imagine a society where rule is not determined by wars and bloodshed, but by the number of sheep in the care of the *sacra*! Interesting concept and one that worked – until the confines of the peninsula got tighter that is.

The men showed off their physical attributes by wearing loose-fitting tunics of various colors fastened at the waist by bronze clasps. Bronze, the indigenous metal, adorned both sexes; clasps and armbands for the men; spiral rings and coiled snake bracelets for women.

Men sported short hairdos and were close shaved; during holidays warlike competitions allowed the men to demonstrate their virility by ‘flooring’ their opponent in the hopes of attracting a mate. These warlike competitions gave rise to the gladiator which was synonymous with Samnite. The “Roman gladiator” became the national sport much later.

Their relationships were monogamous with the female ruling the education of the children and the welfare of the household. Styled as a “patriarchal” society, the matriarchal dominance of the house and growth of the children indicates at least an equal influence, which becomes greater when one considers that future generations exist as they did because of the maternal influence, not the paternal.

POPULATION: Samnites (Sanniti) were composed of four main tribes or **TOUTO**: the **PENTRI** was the central and largest tribe, located on the Matese plateau and extending north (roughly *Aurunci* on the map on the previous page); the **CARRICINI** extended the domains to their northernmost point (*Volsci*); the **CAUDINI** to the west covered the Campania and were heavily influenced by Greek culture and religion found in and around Naples, their lands were circumscribed by Mount Taburno and the Trebulani range along and within the Isclero and the central tracts of the Volturno river and it is in this region our ancestors are to be found; and the **HIRPINI** tribe inhabited the southernmost lands of Samnium between the valleys of the Ofanto, Calore and Sabbato Rivers. A fifth tribe, the **FRENTANI**, on the Adriatic coast, became affiliated with Samnium to a large degree but ultimately separated from greater Samnium and negotiated a peace with Rome centuries before the fall of Samnium. The Pentri religious center of Bovianum did double-duty as a federal one near present-day Pietrabbondante while each tribe had its own center for religious ceremonies, the *Vicus*:

TOUTO	Vicus	Cities
PENTRI	<i>Bovianum</i>	Aesernia, Aufidena, Saepinum, Terventum and Venafrum.
CARRICINI	<i>Cluviae</i>	Juvanum
CAUDINI	<i>Caudinium</i>	Caiatia, Cubulteria, Telesia, Trebula and Saticula
HIRPINI	<i>Maleventum</i>	Abellinum, Aeclanum, Compsa and Tre vicum
FRENTANI	<i>Anxanum</i> (?)	Ortona, Histonium, and Buca

RELIGIOUS BELIEFS: In matters of religion, the Samnite pantheon included at least seventeen deities: *Mamerte*, parallel to Latins' Mars, was the war god; *Famel*, goddess of earth; *Lucina*, goddess of birth; and *Ceres* or *Keres*, goddess of agriculture (hence cereal) were their most important deities, the last of which their "supreme" goddess to be honored if we are to designate one as such. Notable for their absence, are deities for sheep and sheep-herders. Their gods were invoked to safeguard the earth and its fruits, just as God is today. Their religious rites were more than spiritual: the rite of *Ver Sacrum*, literally "Holy Springtime," was the basis of migrations within tribal lands which served to disperse the population over a greater area while establishing tribal boundaries. This was often coupled with honoring the war god *Mamerte* with the first harvest and a symbolic sacrifice. A twenty-year-old man who was born in March or April embarked on a quest with a few followers and, guided by a totemic animal or a specific deity, established a new tribal community. The new community would be named to honor the

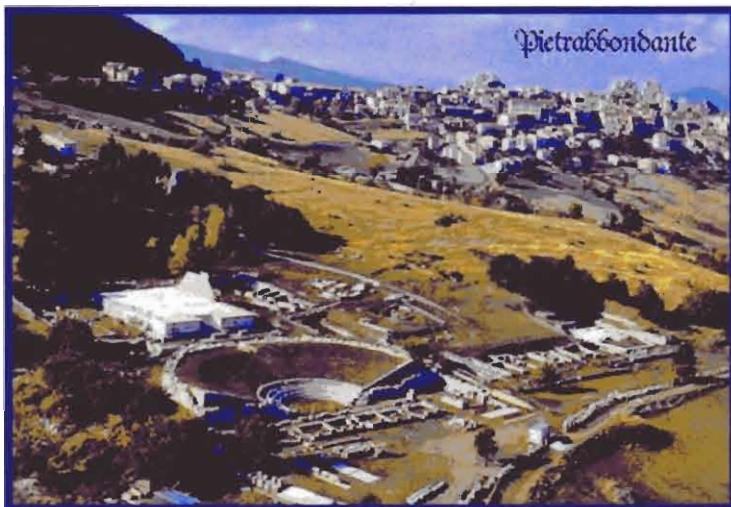
animal or deity totem. This guide, once very real to the tribe, was destined to become the banners under which tribes marched in times of peace and in war. Their first places of worship were open spaces, in the woods and valleys; only later Samnites began building temples. The sanctuary near *Pietrabbondante*, the federal sanctuary of Samnite League, is the best preserved. It had a big temple with three central rooms and three altars dedicated to three deities and a theatre.

As late as 293 B.C.E.

Samnitic and Druid priests jointly conducted the Samnitic rites to safeguard the *Legio Linteata*, a special caste of warriors dedicated to the protection of the people.

GROWTH: By the fifth century B.C.E., the central Pentri tribe's growing population was butting up against their neighbors; there was not enough land for all the sheep! Three areas were targeted for expansion: Apulia's lowlands of the Frentani to the east; the Volsci valley of the river Liri under Carracini control in the north; and the most appealing of all, the Campani's fertile lands to the southwest under the control of the Caudini tribe.

Towards the Campani lands to the west, the Pentri spilled over the banks of the Volturno River initiating a three-hundred year period of war culminating in a stand for complete Sannitic independence in 295 B.C.E. The Samnites were renowned and feared by all for their capabilities in the art of war and their fight to the death stance. The great fight for early Italian supremacy would take place in the Campani. Organizing a massive league of Gauls, Etruscans (not considered Italic due to language differences), Umbrians and virtually every non-Roman tribe, the Sanniti met their 36,000-strong opponent on the fields of Sentinum, near today's Sassaferato. The 8,600 Roman casualties pale next to the estimated 25,000 deaths in the armies of the Samnites and their allies. The Samnite "fight-to-the-death" quality that had instilled awe and fear became their downfall. With their entire military destroyed, the Samnites had no other option but to surrender which they did in 290 B.C.E. The southern peninsula and Sicily have been coveted by kings, emperors, and popes ever since because this region supplied the grain and



other foodstuffs that thrived in the warm Mediterranean climate needed to maintain power.

Two centuries later, the Samnites again rose, this time within the Imperial structure, at the front of the Italic League to fight for full citizenship rights which had not been granted upon military defeat during the Social War. Adopting the ancient Sabellic name “Italia” in 90 C.E. this league preserved it from extinction and expanded its geographic designation to the whole peninsula.

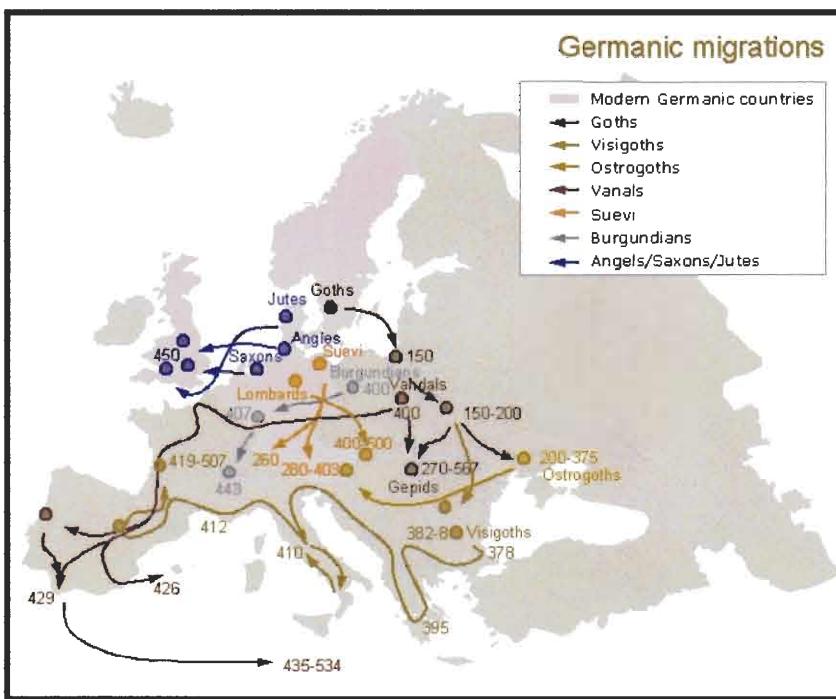
2: 290 B.C.E. TO 568 C.E. – THE HERULI, VANDALS, GOTHS AND BYZANTIUM

Perhaps I have unwittingly stumbled upon the origins of the children’s game of “musical chairs” here more appropriately named “musical thrones” though I do have my doubts regarding the role that music may have played in what follows, despite its lyricism.

The collapse of the five-hundred-year rule of the Western Roman Empire coincided with the collapse of the Hunnic Empire to the north. The Goths, though designated as Germanic, had originated in Scandinavia, migrated to the Black Sea area in the second century and came to be settled north of the Danube River, thus being the northerly neighbor of the Byzantine Empire, by 270 B.C.E. Gothic might grew over the next six centuries resulting in the formation of an independent Gothic kingdom ruled by the eastern (*ostro-*) branch of the Germanic Gothic tribes, the Ostrogoths. Their western (*visi-*) counterparts, the Visigoths, had paved the way for their kinsmen for, in 410 C.E., the Visigothic KING ALARIC sacked Rome. (However, at the time of this sacking, they were merely Gothic; the division into Ostro- and Visi- branches had yet to come about) Under his successor, KING ATAULF, the Visigoths left the Italian Peninsula and moved, well, *west* actually, thus earning their name.

The Italian power-vacuum created by the exit of the first Goths who would become the Visigoths sucked in another Germanic tribe, the Heruli. The Heruli confederation, also Scandinavian and also referred to as Germanic, was first subjugated by the Huns, then by the

Ostrogoths. Is it possible that *Germanic tribe* somehow sounds more threatening than *Scandinavian tribe*? I’ll admit that *Finnish Tribe* does carry with it a note of finality, as does *Finnish Goths* which sounds ominously like *finish Goths*. In 476, the “last” Roman Emperor in the west, **ROMULUS AUGUSTUS**, was deposed and the Heruli leader **ODOACER** had himself declared King of Italy. Ostrogothic rule, considered unofficial as **ODOACER** was Heruli,



expanded south covering the Italian Peninsula. Their “rule” consisted of little more than fortifying small military garrisons for protection and not overhauling the machinations of government, wisely preferring to maintain the status quo.

Meanwhile, across the Mediterranean, another Germanic tribe, the Vandals, conquered Carthage in Africa which became a federate kingdom of the Roman Empire. The Vandals had taken a circuitous route to Carthage from their starting place in modern-day Hungary. They had moved west, first invading the area which is now France, then crossing the Pyrenees and arriving on the Iberian Peninsula in 409. Unable to long enjoy the fruits of their labors, the Vandals were chased out by the Visigoths who, deciding upon a change of scenery as well as a change of peninsula – Italian to Iberian – followed the same trans-Pyrenean trail of the Vandals and landed in my future home of Barcelona in 414. Crossing the Strait of Gibraltar in 429, the Vandals rose and captured Roman Carthage, gaining their independence a decade later. They, in turn, followed the earlier Gothic route, albeit somewhat in reverse, by expanding northward over the Italian Peninsula, conquering Sicily first, and taking Rome in 455, thereby retracing the steps of their current pursuers, the Goths *cum* Visigoths.

For future reference in times of need of idle cocktail party chat or, perhaps, for that increasingly-rare game of Trivial Pursuit^{®TM}, just remember: alphabetically “Va” is before “Vi” or, applying same practically, the Vandals came before the Visigoths. This alphabetic device applies to *tribes* not *places*. It fails when describing the peninsular changes of Italian for Iberian as, alphabetically “It” follows “Ib” but historically and chronologically occupation of the Italian peninsular preceded that of the Iberian Peninsula (again however, using the later substitution of Spanish for Iberian, it will work), which is to say, and thus making a simple concept infinitely more complex (with a nod to Douglas Adams and The Hitchhiker’s Guide to the Galaxy), this device works well with Spanish vandals, but not Iberian ones.

In 488 the “official” or “true” Ostrogothic **KING THEODORIC** the Great (not to be confused with the Visigothic king of the same name who died in 467), captive of and commissioned by the Byzantine **EMPEROR ZENO**, set out to recover Italy from **ODOACER** which he did in 493. **THEODORIC** established his capital in Ravenna. A period of internal struggles followed the death of King **THEODORIC** in 526 which led to seven kings in twenty-six years:

ATHALARIC (526-534) *THEODAHAD* (534-536)
ILDIBAD (540-541) *ERARIC* (541)

WITIGES (536-540)
TOTILA (541-552) and *TEIA* (552)

The Byzantine Emperor Justinian I seized the opportunity to rid the Western Roman Empire of the Germanic tribes completely. The emperor sent Belisarius at the head of the Byzantine armies who conquered the Vandals at Carthage in 533. Sicily was conquered in 535, with Naples and Rome falling the following year. The Byzantine Empire secured the safety of the exarchate of Ravenna. This exarchate, or outlying province, of the Byzantine Empire was ruled by the Exarch under the authority of the Byzantine Emperor. Teia, the last Ostrogothic King, was slain by General Narses in 552. Narses became the first Exarch of Ravenna. However, the Eastern Emperor’s armies withdrew from southern Italy without establishing a government, thus leading to another period of rule by a Germanic people who thought up the idea of having their own “western” emperor to counter the authority and power of that eastern one, and hence, the Holy Roman Emperor was born. This Western Emperor was, in theory, an addition to the Papal armies against the other guy but, in reality, was often opposed to them in the field of war.

3: 568 – 779: THE LOMBARDS

The Lombards hailed from northwestern Germany and started a great southward migration in the 400s. In the spring of 568, the Lombard armies had crossed the Swiss Alps and by 572 they controlled most of Italy. The Longobards, named for their flowing, red beards, established the Lombard Kingdom (Lombardy) under King Alboin (568-572) followed by King Cleph (572-574) after which a decade of internal strife, known as the Rule of the Dukes, passed before King Authari (584-590) assumed the thrown and made Pavia his capital. They were fair-skinned, blue-eyed and red-haired; the same description used to describe my great-grandfather, Giuseppe Maddalena.

The conquered areas were divided into duchies with the Campagna region falling under the rule of the dukes of Benevento. The first Duke of Benevento was Zottone (ruled 571-591). Naples and environs was designated a duchy with an appointed duke who was in a constant contest with neighboring dukes to maintain his territory. (See Appendix 1 for a list of the Dukes of Naples from 661 to 1137).

Two centuries of Lombard kings after **AUTHARI** started with **AGILULF'S** whose rule began in 591 and lasted two and a half decades. He was followed by:

ADALOALD (616-626)

RODOALD (652-653)

GODEPERT (661-662)

ALAHIS, the rebel (688-689)

RAGINPERT (701)

LIUTPRAND (712-744)

AISTULF (749-756) and

ARIOALD (626-636)

ARIPERT I (653-661)

GRIMOALD (662-671)

CUNINCPERT (689-700)

ARIPERT II (701-712)

HILDEPRAND (744)

DESIDERIUS (756-779)

ROTHARI (636-652)

PERCTARIT co-rule with:

PERCTARIT, restored (671-688)

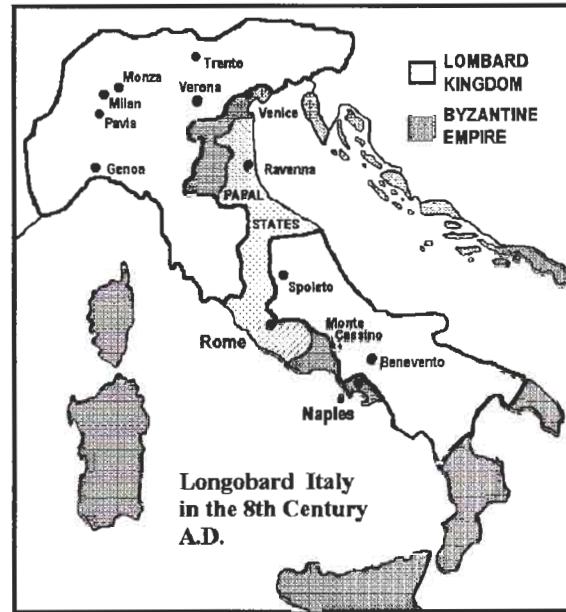
LIUTPERT (700-701)

ANSPRAND (712)

RATCHIS (744-749)

During an extended period of weakened power, the southern regions of the Lombard Kingdom were effectively ruled by the Saracens or “people from the East” for 30 years in the 9th century. The *Saracini* were a heterogeneous mix of North African Berbers and Spanish Moslems and were named after an ancient tribe of robbers from the southern Sinai. Sicily was conquered by Ziyadat Allah I, the Aghlabid Amir, or governor, of Tunisia and Algeria, in 827. It would remain under direct control of this dynasty until 878 when Ibrahim II lost his ability to rule the island.

The Lombard armies under Aistulf attacked the Byzantine Exarchate of Ravenna around 750 and were repulsed by the Pope's armies with the help of the Frankish King Pepin. Pepin seized the Exarchate from the emperor in Constantinople, giving it to the Pope in Rome, which laid the foundation of the Papal States. Twenty years later, the Lombard King Desiderius attacked the Papal States and Frankish-ruled Lombardy in a futile effort to re-establish independence.



4: 779 – 961: THE CAROLINGIAN PERIOD

The Frankish and Papal armies defeated Desiderius and in 779, the Frankish King Charlemagne, son of King Pepin, was crowned King of the Lombards. Most historians consider the period of rule by the Frankish kings as a separate Carolingian period that lasted until 961 C.E.; however some consider the Lombard period to include the years in which the King of the Lombards and the King of the Franks was to be found in the same person. This Frankish Kingdom of Italy coincided with the deterioration of the Empire itself. The “Papal States” were ruled by the Pope in Rome while the “Exarchate of Ravenna” was ruled by the Archbishop for the Emperor in Constantinople. For the people that lived in both, considering that these two regions designated as such were, in fact, the same area, it meant double the taxes with half the security as both sides were at war. This situation, amazingly, continued until 1216.

Once elected *King of Germany* by the German nobility, that monarch had the *right* to be crowned *Holy Roman Emperor* by the Pope, but only in Rome. An odd phrase, “the *right* to be crowned,” a euphemism undoubtedly for “I won’t invade Rome and throw you out as long as you crown me your equal.” An added perquisite to being crowned *King of the Romans* was that of being crowned *King of Italy* when passing through Pavia on the way to or returning from the much more important Roman coronation. (So, let’s see: that’s how many, three crowns from one election? Definitely saved a bundle on campaign costs!) At that time “Italy” extended south on the peninsula only as far as Rome; the southern peninsula was three separate regions, none of which were part of “Italy” as it is understood to be today: the kingdom of Sicily, the duchy of Apulia and the principality of Capua.

For the first century, Carolingian rule was somewhat stable with the kings being:

<i>PIPPIN (781-810)</i>	<i>BERNARD (810-818)</i>	<i>LOTHAIR I (818-855)</i>	<i>LOTHAIR II (844-875)</i>
<i>CHARLES II (875-877)</i>	<i>CARLOMAN (877-879)</i>	and	<i>CHARLES III (879-887)</i>

As if often the case, rule disintegrated and a century of stability was followed by a century of instability. It is pointless to attempt a list of rulers for this period (as if a list of rulers before this period really had a point!) as no one ruled with any degree of certainty. Then in 951, Otto I, the Holy Roman Emperor who somehow was no longer the King of Italy, crowned in Pavia, invaded Italy and restored the tradition that would last for many centuries. I would list the next several “Kings” of Italy but, as mentioned, this “Italy” is not the Italy with which I am concerned so to spare the reader another pointless list of kings that ruled “Italy” but not the Italy where my ancestors lived, I won’t. (Besides, their names are kind of boring – Otto I, II & III; darn it! I just listed them, didn’t I?)

To the south of “Italy” the Papal States were entering a rather turbulent period of their own. As it is today, the throne of Saint Peter was an elected position. However, the electors were the Roman aristocracy, not the College of Cardinals. I can see the slogans now:

*Don’t be a dope,
vote Benedetto for Pope!*

*A vote for Joan is a vote for taste,
she looks better in a dress!*

*Vote for Octavio, a man with Principalities,
And he’ll give you one! (Offer good while supplies last)*

The Holy Roman (German) Emperor Henry III (1039-1056) changed all that in 1046, for in that year three candidates for the crown of Saint Peter claimed victory (no doubt due to a

“hanging chad” controversy). Henry, seizing an opportunity to expand the Imperial power, easily deposed the candidates since the power-base in Rome was fractured between the three, “elected” his own German candidate, followed by three more Imperial Popes, which created an unbalanced and circular structure of power: the Emperor was appointed by the pope while the pope was elected by the Emperor. Whereas the power of the Papal States had been counterbalanced by the might of the Emperor, the two were now combined. Though there were four Imperial Popes: Clement II, Damasus II, Leo IX and Victor II, their cumulative reign lasted but a single decade. This Imperial period of the papacy was ended when the strength of the Norman armies of southern Italy outweighed that of the Empire. The creation of the College of Cardinals with the sole authority to elect popes was a direct result of the “election” of these Imperial Popes.

5: 999 – 1057: THE BYZANTINE CATAPANATE OF APULIA

Returning briefly to the middle of the 9th century when southern Italy was under the control of the Saracens, we find that the Lombards were not the power that removed them. It was the Eastern Empire, the armies of Byzantium. The final quarter of that century saw Byzantium establish two minor provinces, or *strategoi*: Apulia and Calabria. In 999 Apulia was elevated to a *Catapanate* which had the *Catapan of Apulia and Compania* as its leader. Twenty such leaders, with really cool names (if not a lame title, the “Catapan”? Really, you couldn’t come up with anything better? Sounds like a litter-box!) were recorded from 999 to 1057:

<i>GREGORY TARCHANEIOTES</i> (999-1006)	<i>ALEXIUS XIPHIAS</i> (1006-1008)
<i>IOANNES CURCUAS</i> (1008-1010)	<i>BASIL MESARDONITES</i> (1010-1016)
<i>LEO TORNIKIOS KONTOLEON</i> (1017)	<i>BASIL BOIOANNES</i> (1017-1027)
<i>CHRISTOPHOROS BURGARIS</i> (1027-1029)	<i>POTHOS ARGYRUS</i> (1029-1031)
<i>MICHAEL PROTOSPATHARIOS</i> (1031-1033)	<i>CONSTANTINOS OPOS</i> (1033-1038)
<i>MICHAEL SONDYLES</i> (1038-1039)	<i>GEORGE MANIACES</i> (mixed in between 1038 & 1042)
<i>NICEPHORUS DOUKEIANOS</i> (1039-1040)	<i>MICHAEL DOUKEIANOS</i> (1040-1041)
<i>EXAUGUSTUS BOIOANNES</i> (1041-1042)	<i>SYNODIANOS</i> (1042)
<i>PARDOS</i> (another in 1042, a really bad year)	<i>BASIL THEODOROCANUS</i> (1043-1045)
<i>EUSTATHIOS PALATINOS</i> (1046)	<i>ARGYRUS</i> (1051-1057)

The last of the listed catapans, Argyrus, is also found in contemporary sources as being the Duke of Apulia as late as 1054. He is thought to be the son of Ismael Melus, elected Duke of Apulia by the Drengot family. Ismael was duke from 1011 or somewhat earlier, until his death in 1020 when he traveled to the Emperor asking for aid. He was buried in the churchyard at Bamberg. On 22 June 1017 the catapan Leo Tornikios Kontoleon was victorious over the forces of Ismael and the Norman Leo Patiano. The end of the first millennia had brought to peninsular Italy a situation akin to anarchy, brought on by the very persons who were obligated, at least in theory, to provide their subjects with the security and safety necessary to prevent anarchy! The last of the Carolingian kings and emperors, their appointed representatives, the marquesses and counts as well as the sovereigns of the nominally independent kingdoms in the north that provided a buffer against invasion failed to maintain, enlarge and build the defenses required.

This void created by the crumbling of power from the north had the *boni homines*, or citizens of goodwill, banding together to build the “castles” and designing newer, and more defensible, villages and towns. This new form of early city planning had the dense residential area situated at a place whose very location made it difficult to attack. The 9th and 10th century “castles” were large earthen-works topped with palisades and sometimes structures in which

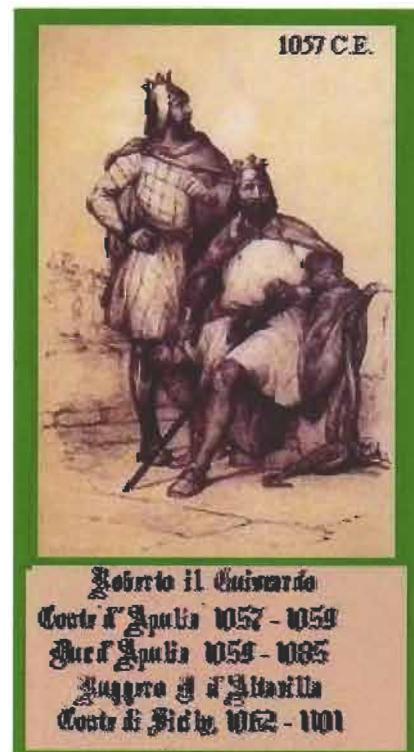
people and livestock took refuge in times of danger. The medieval castles, with their well-known battlements, towers, ramparts and drawbridges were then still two-hundred years in the future; the 13th century Neapolitan Castel Nuova is perhaps the best surviving example of the medieval-era castles. The villages were situated at a distance from the Roman consular roads and were built on local high points or on steep inclines with one house built adjoining the next, thus eliminating any gaps through which invaders could gain entry. The section of Piedimonte d'Alife leading up the steep slope to the Chiesa di San Giovanni is just such a place. The isolated and far-flung farmhouse became a thing of the past and the whole structure of agriculture underwent profound changes.

Leadership for building of these defenses was provided by, initially, the imperial counts acting without imperial authority and working with the local bishop; later the two groups would almost naturally become antagonists with “urban” leadership falling to the latter only. The result was that power in the towns and villages accrued to the bishop while that of the countryside fell to the count as the imperial representative. Having the stamp of the Empire, or not, created a monumental difference: authority, with its intended or implied allegiance, was not requested, given, obtained or even wanted from the Emperor. Funding of these projects came from the population served, not from some distant imperial treasury. Thus grew allegiance to the local bishop who could expect the support of his subjects against invaders as well as the Imperial counts who held sway in the rural areas for many decades. The *contado*, literally “count’s land” is defined as the countryside for this very reason.

6: 1043 – 1053/7: HOUSE OF HAUTEVILLE – D'ALTAVILLA

Four sons of Tancred “of Hauteville,” in Italian “d’Altavilla,” a Norman noble of the Coutances region in Normandy, provided Apulia with their mid-eleventh century rulers. Apulia

is on the eastern, or Adriatic, coast; geographically it’s one section that you would grab if you were trying to put on a really tight peninsular “boot,” the back just above the heel. Guigielmo I, *Bras-Fer* (Iron-Arm) was elected *Conte* in September 1042 and, perhaps following a rainier-than-usual period, Iron-Arm died. He provided Frank Tanbaum with the idea of “the Tinman” in *The Wizard of Oz*. (Please do not try to impress your friends and colleagues with your great knowledge of all things Oz – that was a joke.) Iron Arm’s brother Drogo was the next to be elected, in 1046. Conte Drogo was murdered on 9 August 1050 while “preparing for” doing the *Festa di San Lorenzo* the following day. There are as many alleged perpetrators and locations for the murder as there are written versions: “at the altar of the Church of Saint Lawrence by Waszo, Conte di Napoli” of which neither is clearly identified by contemporary writers. This version came in handy when it was expedient to stress the piety of the Altavilla, even saintliness, by dropping the casual remark on the similarities between **Drogo’s murder** and the story of Jesus’ last night praying in the **Garden of Gethesmane**. Even more ambiguous, if such is possible, has the murder taking place at one of



Drogo's castles located at Montoglio or Montellaro or Monte Ylari or Monte Ilari or someplace starting with "M" by the Catapan Argyrus. The fact of his death, rather than the specifics of its occurrence, is more notable as murder was no stranger to these people.

The next brother in the Conte-line was Onfroi (Humphrey) who was elected in 1051, and in the fraternal fashion, served until his death in 1057. By now it would seem to be apparent to the surviving brothers that being elected *Conte* had some drawbacks, the main one being its incompatibility with life, but no, it didn't. Onfroi was followed by a half-brother Roberto *il Guiscardo* (the Weasel) in August 1057. His nickname stems from his activities as a bandit before joining the ranks of the titled nobility. Maybe Roberto did understand the drawbacks and pushed for the elevation of Apulia to a duchy which it was in 1059. No more *curse of the Altavilla conte's* after he became *Duc di Apulia*. He was also invested with the title *Duc di Calabria* (the "toe" of the boot) in 1059. In 1085 Roberto relinquished his Sicilian ducal title in favor of his brother Ruggero I Borsa while he pursued territorial enlargement on the eastern shores of the Adriatic, the Greek islands and the north coast of Africa. Historians differ in the year the rule of the d'Altavilla family commenced:

- 1059 when Pope Nicholas II first granted the unconquered Sicily to Roberto *il Guiscardo*;
- 1061 when Roberto was invested with the title *Duc di Sicily*;
- 1071 when Ruggero I Borsa was "given" Sicily (never mind the fact that Roberto did not hold a single square inch of the island); or
- 1085 when Ruggero I Borsa was given the title *Duc di Sicily* by his brother.

Sicily officially remained part of Islamic Empire until the 1061 invasion of the *Duc di Apulia* though it would be a few decades before reality caught up with the "official" claim. The Moslems of Sicily and southern Italy were Berbers from North Africa (the race of St. Augustine) and Spanish Moslems, a diverse people but they were all called Saracens ("People from the East") by the Italians. Military victories gave Roberto *il Guiscardo* fleeting territorial gains including Durazzo, Corfu, and Tunis and Tripoli on the coast of North Africa.

In Sicily Ruggero I was the first of the d'Altavilla dynasty to pursue the conquering of the island which started in 1062 and was almost complete upon his death in 1101. He was followed by his son Simone d'Altavilla until 1113 and then another son, Ruggero II d'Altavilla, until 1130. By this time it seems the Apulian territory had slipped from the hands of the Altavilla and Ruggero II saw strength in the gathering of Sicily and Apulia together again under Altavilla rule. Others did not fully agree, especially the current rulers of Apulia and its neighbors who weren't too sure that being surrounded by someone else was smart from a military-strength point-of-view. Ruggero II ruled both places as Duke, Sicily and Apulia, from 1127 to 1130. He desired more and "more" is what he got in 1130.

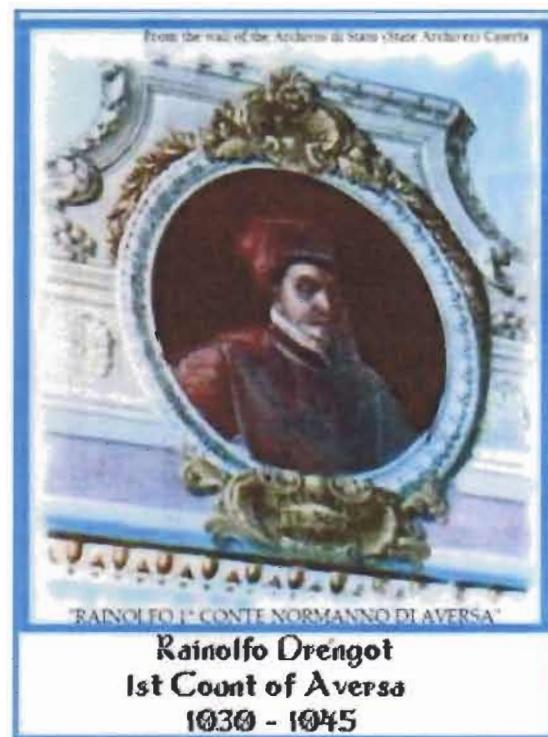


7: 1053 – 1194: THE NORMAN INVASION

This period of turmoil in southern Italy led to invasions by the Normans as mercenaries. The first Norman adventurers may have been on a 1017 pilgrimage to the shrine of the soldier-archangel, Michael, at Monte Sant'Angelo sul Gargano in the Byzantine Catapanate of Apulia. An alternate history has the first forty Normans landing in Salerno in 999 on their return trip from Jerusalem. There they were recruited by the prince to help repel a Saracen attack.

In either event, the first group of which there exists definitive, written accounts numbered about two hundred fifty and arrived in 1017. Leading this group were five brothers from Drengot: Gilbert, Rainulf (Rainolfo), Osmond, Asclettino and Raulf. However, the Drengot brothers were *returning* to the area as they had apparently elected Ismael Melus as Duke of Apulia in 1011 or earlier. They established a stronghold at Monte Gargano in Apulia and fought for the local Lombard ruler against the Byzantines. After a disastrous defeat in which their leader Gilbert was slain, the Normans abandoned Apulia for Campania to the north. Rainolfo led the band and provided a safe passage for pilgrims to Saint Michael's shrine, for a price and in concert with the Lombard Prince of Capua, Pandulf IV "the Wolf of Abruzzi." As their numbers swelled, the balance of power tipped in their favor, greatly assisted by the struggle for hegemony between the Lombard princes and the Byzantine armies of the Greek Catapan Basil Boioannes. Sergius VI, Duke of Naples, and vassal of Byzantium, had been chased from Naples in 1027 by the Wolf after Boioannes was recalled. In a timely move, Rainolfo betrayed Pandulf and switched allegiances when Sergius requested his assistance in his bid to regain the duchy of Napoli. Sergius VI was restored to his duchy just as the House d'Altavilla was making their entrance in the Apulia. The Neapolitan duke granted the former Byzantine stronghold of Aversa as a fief to RAINULF (RAINOLFO) DRENGOT, 1° Conte di Aversa, in 1030.

After vanquishing the Byzantines in 1038, RAINOLFO declared himself Principe di Aversa in an effort to establish Aversa as being equal to, and independent from, both the Napoli and Capua. RAINOLFO and his heirs then conquered Capua and, by uniting it with Aversa, established the largest single geopolitical entity in southern Italy. The unrecognized title "Principe di Aversa" was incorporated into the recognized title Principe di Capua that was created in 1059. RAINOLFO'S brother ASCLETTINO was the 1° Conte di Acerenza. ASCLETTINO had several titled sons including: RICCARDO I, recognized as the 1° Norman Principe di Capua (1058 – 1078); ASCLETTINO who was RAINOLFO'S heir as the 2° Conte di Aversa; and RAINOLFO I, 1° Conte di Alife.



Norman rule was firmly established by mid-century with the D'ALTAVILLA as Counts, then Dukes, of Apulia and Calabria and Counts of Sicily while the DRENGOT line held the titles Princes of Capua and Aversa as well control of Monte Gargano and the nearby town of Syonte.

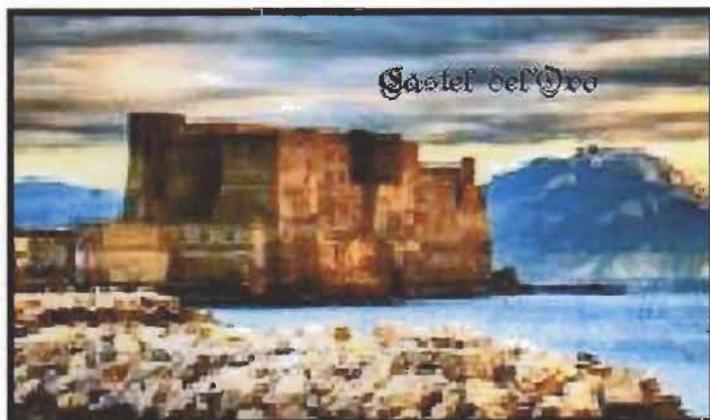


King Ruggero II Normanno.

RAINOLFO III, Conte di Alife, was called to a failed crusade against Ruggero, his brother-in-law and ally of the Antipope Anacletus II, by Pope Honorius II in 1127. Ten years later Pope Innocent II, with The Holy Roman Emperor Lothair, invested RAINOLFO as Duc di Apulia. RAINOLFO III (died 30 April 1139) was the son of ROBERTO, the 2° Conte di Alife and Caiazzo; grandson of RAINOLFO I, 1° Conte di Alife (who is often confused for his uncle RAINOLFO, the 1° Conte di Aversa); and great-grandson of ASCLETTINO, 1° Conte d'Acerenza. The adoption of "III" is misleading in that, in titles, it normally would signify this was the 3° Conte di Alife named RAINOLFO, which he was not. RAINOLFO II, commonly named RAINOLFO TRINCANOCTE, was the 3° Conte di Aversa and cousin of ASCLETTINO, 2° Conte di Aversa. Because of this cousin, RAINOLFO may have adopted the "III" to avoid having RAINOLFO II, 3° Conte di Aversa and RAINOLFO II, 3° Conte di Alife ruling their respective areas at the same time. Alternately, the DRENGOT Conte di Alife have come down through history as the QUARREL-DRENGOT family. This name apparently has a connection to their ancestral home and is often the sole

surname used: RAINOLFO II, QUARREL Conti di Alife. As punishment for RAINOLFO'S transgressions, the Duke had Alife destroyed and the inhabitants again fled to the relative safety of Piedimonte d'Alife and Castello d'Alife. Alife never fully regained its' importance after this destruction.

In Apulia and Calabria rule passed from ROBERTO to RUGGERO BORSA in 1085 and after him, in 1111, came Conte GUGLIELMO until 1127, when RUGGERO II GUISCARDO (D'ALTAVILLA) took control. In 1130, Duke RUGGERO II Guiscard declared himself King, establishing the Kingdom of the Two Sicilies with his capital in Palermo. He is credited with beginning construction of the oldest of the four surviving castles in Naples: *Castel dell'Ovo* (literally Egg Castle) in 1115. Built on the first century B.C.E. site of the magnificent villa Castellum Lucullanum, its name originates with the legend that the poet Virgil, a resident and acclaimed sorcerer of Naples at the time of building the villa, placed the first-laid egg in a finely wrought metal cage suspended from a beam braced against the walls of a small secret chamber built especially for that purpose within the castle. As long as the egg remained intact, the city was safe. It was said that in his attempts to conquer Naples, RUGGERO II had found the bones of Virgil as well as his book of magic the *Ars Notaria*. Virgil's bones were placed in an ampoule and kept in Castel dell'Ovo where they guarded the city. RUGGERO secured the proclamation as King from Antipope Anacletus II. Pope





of southern Italy and varied in size over the years. The first “recognized” Kings of the Two Sicilies, alternately known as the Kingdom of Naples and Sicily, were D’ALTAVILLA. GUGLIELMO I, the Bad, ruled from 1154 to 1166 and built the second oldest of the four existing castles in Naples – *Castel Capuano*. After the Bad came the Good: GUGLIELMO II, (1166-1189). This last king brings to the story some history that may be more familiar to the reader.

GUGLIELMO II was married to JOANNA, daughter of Eleanor of Aquitaine and Henry II and sister to the English king Richard the Lionheart. A bequest in GUGLIELMO’S will gave the crown to his younger sister CONSTANCE, wife of the Holy Roman Emperor; a bequest not to be filled for five years.



Count Guglielmo I
1154-1166

The king’s death was the start of hostilities between the German Imperial forces wanting to place the papal patrimony in a vice and Sicilian forces desirous of expelling the Germans. GUGLIELMO’S half-brother TANCREDO DI LECCE caused much turmoil when became the figure-head for the latter when he was unlawfully elected king by the States General of Sicily in 1190. TANCREDO crowned his son RUGGERO III in 1192 but this period of co-rule ended the following year when RUGGERO died. The rule of GUGLIELMO III DI LECCE lasted but a few months in 1194,

beginning in February on his father’s death and ending in December when he was deposed by the Holy Roman Emperor HENRY VI. GUGLIELMO, beaten, pledged his allegiance to HENRY on Christmas Day, the day of HENRY’S coronation as ENRICO I, King of Sicily, and was confirmed as *Conte di Lecce* and created *Conte di Taranto*. Short-lived titles in the extreme for, within days, HENRY had him arrested, blinded, castrated and sent to Vorarlberg as a prisoner in Schloss Hohenems! But GUGLIELMO wanted to return those Christmas gifts! The *DI LECCE* kings were illegitimate sons of RUGGERO II (some sources state RUGGERO III, *Duca di Apulia*) and his mistress Bianca di Lecce.

The last of the D’ALTAVILLA royalty was CONSTANCE, by the 1189 will of GUGLIELMO II which left her the crown. CONSTANCE only came to the throne in 1194 after the illegitimate *DI LECCE* usurpers had died or been deposed. Daughter of RUGGERO II, she was the last of the ALTAVILLA to sit on the throne. When she is mentioned, it is usually as the wife of the Holy

Innocent II countered by investing RAINOLFO III *Conte di Alife* as *Duca di Apulia* in 1137. Unfortunately RAINOLFO III died in April 1139 which was followed by RUGGERO seizing the Pope who granted him recognition on 25 July 1139 as a condition of release. This Norman Conquest followed on the heels of another more famous one by sixty-four years when William, Duke of Normandy dethroned the Anglo-Saxon Kings of England in 1066.

The second Sicily was composed of the Apulian and Calabrian territories



Guglielmo III di Lecce
1194

Roman Emperor HENRY VI and not as Queen of Sicily. She was not present for her husband's coronation as she could not travel – she gave birth on 26 December to her only child, FREDERICK, which may be why ENRICO I felt the need to remove the threat posed by the presence of any di Lecce pretenders to the throne.

The Kingdom of the Two Sicilies was truly a multinational kingdom:

- the counties of Marsia and Abruzzo which were autonomous but had once belonged to the Kingdom of Italy;
- the former Longobard principalities of Benevento (with the exception of the capital city, itself being a papal holding since 1051), Capua and Salerno;
- the former Byzantine “themes” of Longobardia (Apulia), Lucania, and Calabria;
- the former Tyrrhenian duchies of Naples, Amalfi, Gaeta, and Sorrento; and
- the former Arab Muslim emirate of Sicily.

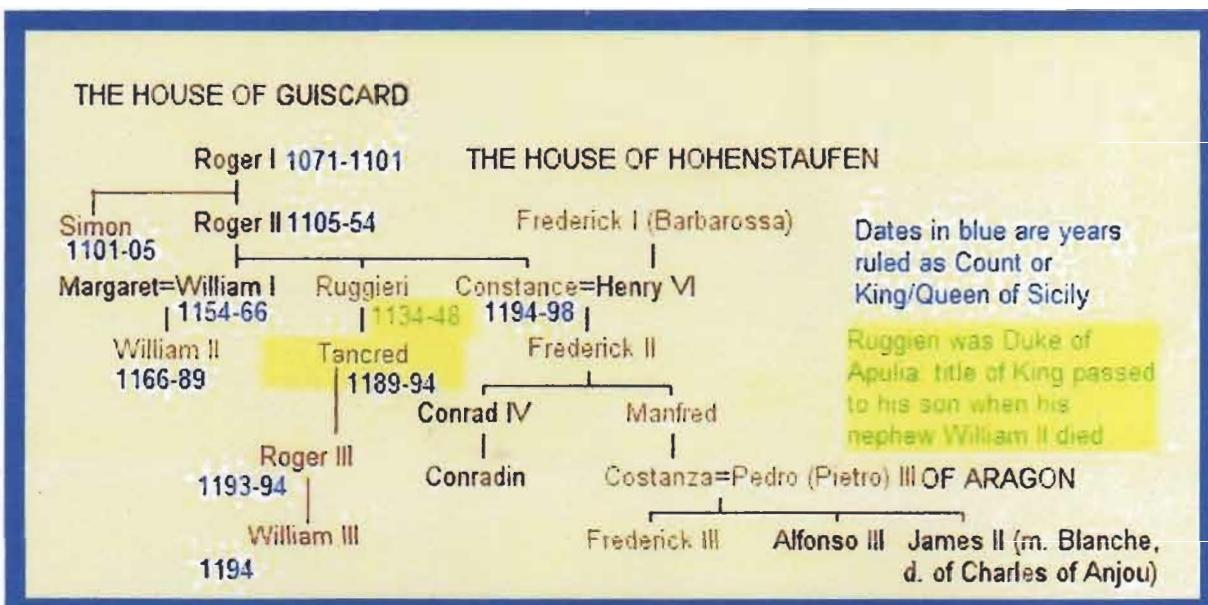
Represented in roughly equivalent thirds were the populations of Romano-Germanic, Graeco-Byzantine and the Arab Muslim peoples. The class of the highest ranking feudal lords on the mainland numbered twenty-seven, one *conti* for each of the twenty-five count-ships outside of Calabria, plus one for each Calabrian division: *Calabria Citeriore* (Latin Calabria) in the north and *Calabria Ulteriore* (Greek Calabria) in the south.

8: 1194 - 1268: HOHENSTAUFEN – IL SUEVI

In 1194 C.E. Norman rule ended when the Frankish Holy Roman Emperor HENRY VI invaded and claimed the throne in the right of his wife CONSTANCE, heir to the throne of the Kingdom of the Two Sicilies by the will of her brother GUGLIELMO II. By years end she was QUEEN CONSTANCE, the last of the D'ALTAVILLA to rule and he was King ENRICO I. His was fated to be a short reign but anything but unproductive as he overtly robbed the royal palace, sending 150 mules laden with gold and precious stones to the Imperial castle in Trifels, Germany. Their son FEDERICO I (of the Two Sicilies) was born the same year and, at the young age of three, became King of Sicily upon his father's death in 1197. He was not the first of his family to hold an Italian crown. In 1128 CONRAD III, the brother of FEDERICO'S great-grandfather, was crowned King of Italy, representing lands in northern Italy. Apparently HENRY VI had discovered upon inspection that the ampoule holding Virgil's bones had a minute crack, thus breaking both the hermetic seal and the power to protect the city. In this way Henry became the first person in a thousand years to conquer Naples by force. Hopefully he was intelligent enough have the forethought to replace the cracked ampoule with restoration of the cities protection (and the people's confidence).

The Holy Roman Empire was the brainchild of the HOUSE OF HOHENSTAUFEN. The idea was to check the Pope's aims at holding supranational power over all the princes of Europe. The HOHENSTAUFEN ruled Swabia and was one of the two most powerful forces in Germany. The Duke of Bavaria was equal to the Hohenstaufen in power and the two houses were united in marriage, Hohenstaufen and Guelph. After the death of ENRICO I, CONSTANCE, to remove German hegemony in Sicily, severed ties with the German Empire and appointed Pope Innocent III as guardian in the event of her death. She became Regent of the Kingdom, a role she played





for just fourteen months before her death in November 1198. While the Pope and Church became guardian of the young king, four archbishops of the royal household, with Gualtiero da Pagliara, Chancellor of the kingdom, at the head, formed the Regency of the kingdom. Innocent III saw his ward just one time when he was seventeen years old. The German officials banished by CONSTANCE, with the Imperial Seneschal Markward von Annweiler at their head, formed an opposition party to Pagliara. In 1201 the royal fortress and the royal child and the capital city of Palermo ended up being held by Annweiler but his was a bittersweet victory as he died the following year. The Regency fell to Guglielmo di Capporone and the conte di Alife, DIEPOLD VON SCHWEINSPEUNT, a relative of Annweiler, for 6 years during which Federico was allowed to do as he pleased since he held the keys to an empty treasury. Fulfilling his role as guardian, Innocent III brings about his ward's marriage to Constance d'Aragona, 10 years FEDERICO's senior by securing a betrothal before the king reached his maturity at the end of 1208, ending Innocent's control. While the actual marriage took place in Palermo during August 1209, an earlier one by proxy was performed by a Sicilian bishop in 1208 at the cathedral of Saragossa.

Twenty-five Norman counties on the mainland, Calabria being excluded, were replaced by eleven Imperial provinces, plus Napoli: Abruzzo, Capitanata, Terra di Bari (Apulia), Terra d'Otranto, Terra di Lavoro, Molise, Principato e Terra Beneventana, Basilicata, Val di Crati (northwestern portion of upper Calabria), Terra Giordana and Calabria. Abruzzo would be divided first, in the 1270s, into Abruzzo Citeriore and Abruzzo Ulteriore, and second, Ulteriore further divided into Ulteriore I and II, which is why the phrase "the Abruzzi" came into use. The Principato portion of Principato e Terra Beneventana, southeast of Napoli, was separated and divided in 1284 into Principato Citra and Principato Ultra, sixteen Imperial provinces total. The growing military strength of the Barons was curtailed when all castles built since 1185 had to be dismantled or turned over to the crown. Older castles in Terra di Lavoro and Molise were taken by the crown where they protected the northern frontier in vulnerable spots. The last of Arab resistance on Sicily was eradicated early in his reign.

Despite his mother's break with the German empire, FEDERICO was crowned FREDRICK II, King of the German people in 1212 as a result of the vote of the German princes vote to depose Otto IV just as he was set to conquer all of Sicily and eliminate his rival for the Imperial

crown. FEDERICO made Foggia his capital city and, in 1224, founded the University of Naples to help meet the demands of the growing administration of the state. As the Ghibelline and Guelph armies battled, bringing the German Waibling versus Welf feud to Italy, FREDERICK II watched helplessly as the Guelph army, formerly a Hohenstaufen tool, sacked Piedimonte d'Alife in 1228. The Guelphs, now very much aligned with the Pope Gregory IX, marched on the Ghibellines again in a few years. In 1237 he defeated Milanese forces and captured Padua and from 1237 till his death in 1250, he would wage war on the Papal States and Lombardy. He enlarged Castel Capuano and converted it to his royal palace. In 1239 he lost the crown of Germany due to being excommunicated; however he retained the Sicilian crown for the rest of his life. Imperial rule in northern Italy was threatened from the nobility within and the Papacy without. Federico suffered major military defeats in Parma (1248) and Fossalto (1249).



Corrado I Hohenstaufen
1250-1254

Two French Popes, Urban IV and, after 1264, Clement IV, were enemies of the German monarchs to the south, waging war to limit the threat of the Emperor. In so doing, they turned, somewhat naturally, to their homelands and eventually obtained military support from King Louis IX of France. The cost for the French armies would be nothing less than the crown itself, to be held as a fief by the French monarchy. Louis IX was from the house of Anjou (d'Anjou) from the western province of the same name in France. The adjectival form of Anjou is Angevin and it is this descriptive that is used to identify the monarchs from the House of Anjou as in the "Angevin kings." Pope Clement IV ordered that Charles, Count of Anjou (1226 – 1285) be invested with the kingdom of Sicily. Four

cardinals crowned him CARLO I, King of Sicily on 28 June 1265, a dubious coronation as Papal claims to the kingdom, in spite of FEDERICO I's acknowledgment of the Pope as overlord of Sicily, were tenuous during the best of times.

FEDERICO'S son, CORRADO I (CONRAD IV of Germany), ruled for four years, either being killed in battle or of malaria on 21 May 1254. The crown fell to CORRADO'S minor son CONRADIN (also called CORRADO II) with the Regency invested in a half-uncle, MANFREDI, an illegitimate son of Federico I. After four years, MANFREDI seized the crown for himself. CONRADIN escaped and MANFREDI fell in battle in February 1266 at Benevento. Four months later Charles was "elected" king of the Two Sicilies, again as CARLO I, presumably by the nobility of Naples who had a preference for Papal rule, even if it came through France, to that of Imperial rule from Germany.

CONRADIN, the ten-year old who had fled in 1258 came forward as an eighteen-year-old to claim the crown in 1266. He not only lost the crown two years later, but also the head that wore it! He was beheaded as a disturber of the peace in the Mercato Vecchio in Naples shortly after his final defeat at Tagliacozzo on 23 August 1268. A moving account of his last moments will be found in appendix 5.



Corrado II Hohenstaufen
1254-1258 & 1266-1268

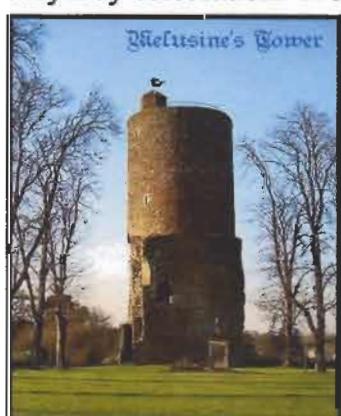
9: 1268-1442: d'ANJOU TO d'ANGIO

Charles d'Anjou became CARLO I, d'Angio, King of the Two Sicilies (and Charles I, King of Hungary). He moved the capital from the somewhat remote, and not-so-friendly, Sicilian town of Palermo to the much more supportive, and mainland, town of Naples. Hostilities

The *Maschio Angioino* is one of the most familiar sites in Naples.



continued with the Swabian faction, backed by the *Saraceni* for another year before the Angevin armies achieved final victory at Lucera. CARLO built the formidable *Castelnuovo* in Naples where the locals still call it *il Maschio Angioino* or the Angevin Keep. Angevin rule was not popular and the King often resorted to seeking assistance from his brother, the French King. Most certainly the tales of Melusine, the diabolical ancestress d'Anjou resurfaced. One of the early d'Anjou counts returned from a journey with a new and beautiful wife, Melusine, who bore him four children. She was satisfactory in every way except one; she was never present in church when the Eucharist was present. The troubled count ordered four knights stand on Melusine's cloak when the Host was elevated. Melusine shrieked and thrashed about, managing to tear herself free of her cloak. Grabbing two of their four children, she flew screeching out of a window never to be seen during the counts' life again. She is reputedly to be found hovering over Melusine's Tower at an ancient French Angevin castle when one of her line dies. "Melusine's" remain a type of cookie are made especially for May Day celebrations in certain parts of France.



Competition and conflict existed between island of Sicily and the mainland of Sicily, as much because of the very different history of each region as with the very real geographic isolation of each. Moving the capital to friendly Naples offended Sicilian sensibilities and raised cries for independence. Angevin rule on the island abruptly ended in 1282 with the *Night of the Sicilian Vespers*. Named after an occurrence on Easter Monday, 30 March 1282, it was actually a culmination of several weeks of unrest. The underlying cause of this unrest was the financial strain placed on the population by the expansive policies of the Angevins. Already owning Piedmontese territory in northern Italy, CARLO I conquered

and claimed to be king of the nonexistent kingdom of Albania on the eastern shores of the Adriatic in 1272 and then took the island of Corfu; both expansions were costly. The flashpoint occurred when a Sicilian woman went to her parish church to fetch her daughter home. Upon entering the sanctuary, she witnessed her daughter being raped by a French soldier. The distraught woman fled the building, shouting "My daughter! My daughter!" In her Sicilian dialect: "**Ma fia! Ma fia!**" Her cry may well be the origins of "mafia." Another version, if less colorful, being not less likely, places the spark that ignited the fire in the square outside the Church of the Holy Spirit just outside of Palermo on Easter Sunday. A great crowd awaited the ceremony of the vespers to begin; within this crowd was a young Sicilian bride and her husband as well as the French soldier Sergeant Frouet (Droetta in Sicilian) allegedly somewhat inebriated.



Carlo II d'Angio
1282-1285

The drunken soldier made some questionable advances towards the bride. These advances were halted by her husband at the point of his dagger. The superiority of the smug French soldiers was made readily apparent as none that responded to the attack survived. The ensuing rebellion against the Angevin rule led to a six-week massacre of most of Sicily's French inhabitants and the loss of their forty-two castles. Even Sicilian wives of Frenchmen were not excused from the massacre. A test, the failure of which meant instant death, was to require a person to say the Sicilian word for chickpeas: *ciceri*. Frenchmen could not correctly pronounce the word and all who were found that failed the test were summarily executed with no thought being given to other people who for one reason or another, may also be unable to pronounce the word. Fearing the vengeance of CARLO I and of Pope Martin IV, the Sicilians offered their island to the Spanish throne under Pedro III, King of Aragon and Valencia (b.1239-d.1285).

In 1262, the future King of Aragon had married Constance, daughter and heiress of King MANFRED of Sicily. In 1266, he succeeded his father to the crowns of Aragon, as Pedro III, and Valencia as Pedro I. The war to reclaim Sicily in right of his wife lasted twenty years. He was crowned PIETRO I, King of Sicily in 1282.

1285 saw the death of three major players of this drama: CARLO I (7 January), Martin IV (28 March) and PIETRO I (2 November). PIETRO was succeeded in Sicily by his younger son GIACOMO I and in Aragon by his first-born son Alfonso, the third to bear that name. And thus it came to pass that the crown of the Kingdom of the Two Sicilies fell on two heads and two houses. GIACOMO concluded a peace treaty with CARLO II d'Angio, the Lame, the following year which allowed CARLO to regain Sicily upon the former's death and retrieve the missing half-crown he coveted. Meanwhile, on the Iberian Peninsula, Alfonso III died without an heir in 1291 and younger brother GIACOMO I of Sicily was crowned Jaime II of Aragon. The wills of his father and his brother specifically barred him from holding both crowns which he craftily benefited from by trading an island he couldn't have for two he wanted: Sardinia and Corsica. The Conference of Anagni in June 1295 hammered out the specifics of transferring Sicily back to the Angevins.

However, the Sicilian population had no intention of returning to the despised Angevin rule (remember the *Vespers* episode?) and refused to submit to the terms of the Conference of



Carlo II d'Angio
1285-1309

Anagni. They elected a third Aragonese brother Frederick as FERDINAND II, of Sicily in May 1296. Ironically, the Sicilians had honored their sovereign by enforcing the terms of his father's and brother's wills and electing the lawful heir to the throne as king! FERDINAND II held the throne despite ongoing war with the combined forces of his brother Jaime II, king of Aragon; CARLO II d'Angio, king of Naples (1285 – 1309); and the Papal armies who were assisted by Charles of Valois.

The Sicilian conflict was not officially settled until the 1302 peace of Caltabellotta. The "Two Sicilies" were separated: the island of Sicily remaining Aragonese (Spanish) and mainland Sicily remaining Angevin (French). Pope Boniface VIII (elected in Naples, 1294) forced the Aragonese to accept the crown of the "Kingdom of Trinacria" while the crown of Sicily remained on friendlier Angevin heads. Trinacria, or *Sicily beyond the Lighthouse*, was an archaic title which made use of the island's triangular shape, one which was soon abandoned by the Aragonese who favored the title King of Sicily. The Pope's craftiness soon surfaced when the Angevins claimed all of Sicily for themselves by virtue of possessing the crown of the "Kingdom of Sicily." For these French monarchs the word "Sicily" could encompass both island and mainland and be equal to the phrase "the Two Sicilies." Not surprisingly, the Aragonese definitions differed somewhat inasmuch as "Trinacria" was found to be synonymous with Sicily when the Aragonese thesaurus was consulted and, thus, they were in the right when they claimed to be Kings of Sicily. The House of Trastámara had provided the kings of Navarre, Aragon and Castille from 1162 to 1412 and was the continuation of that had ruled Sicily from 1282 until the start of the Interregnum. It would be seven decades before the two separate crowns for each Kingdom of Sicily, one surrounded by water, the other not, would officially disappear. Unofficially, the Aragonese won this battle, they were referred to as the Kings and Queens of Sicily after agreeing to be called the Kings and Queens of Trinacria while the Angevins opted for the unrecognized Kings and Queens of Naples after agreeing to be called the Kings and Queens of Sicily. Being the King of Naples was much easier to explain than "Yes, I am the King of Sicily, but not the Sicily you know; I'm King of the other one, the Sicily that *isn't* an island."

CARLO II, perhaps tiring of the shenanigans of the Neapolitan court, headed northeast where, as husband of Maria of Hungary since 1270, he was crowned Charles I, King of Hungary circa 1302. Possessing the crown did not automatically correspond with the possession of power and it wasn't until 1312 that the armies of the Hungarian nobles were defeated at the Battle of Rozgony but only with the size and skill of mounted and infantry units sent by the forty-three cities of the Zipserbund near the Slovak border with Poland (the number cited is usually twenty-four which is the final count after reductions). The interconnectedness of peoples far-removed from one-another possibly existed at this point: my Kutarnya ancestors from Spisska Stara Ves possibly fighting for Charles I in Hungary while my Italian Maddalena ancestors being subjects of Carlo II, King of Naples – two places, two ancestral branches with the same person as monarch - CARLO II d'Angio and Charles I.





Castel Sant'Elmo

ROBERTO D'ANGIO, the Wise, son of CARLO II, was crowned King of Naples by Pope Clement V at Avignon, France in 1309. From 1325 to 1341 ROBERTO D'ANGIO, enlisting the aid of the French King Philip V, would

unsuccessfully try to pull the chair from out under the King of Sicily, first FERDINAND II until his death in 1337 and then FERDINAND'S son PIETRO II. ROBERTO built the Castel Sant'Elmo between 1329 and 1343 which commands the hilltop of the same name. Following ROBERT'S death the crown passed to his sister QUEEN GIOVANNA I D'ANGIO. To this day there are adherents to both answers to the question "Could the line of succession be carried through a female?" She married four times, her first husband, Andrea d'Ungheria, ruled with her as king consort for the first two years of her reign until he was assassinated, possibly with GIOVANNA'S knowledge and cooperation; Andrea was strangled then his body thrown from the Queen's bedroom balcony from the Royal Palace in Aversa. Papal support of the Anjevin's Neapolitan ambitions was so complete (against the Imperialist Hohenstaufens) that no papal censure was incurred by GIOVANNA'S complicity, if not actual participation, in the assassination of her husband. In fact she would outlive all four husbands; each one's death occurring under circumstances that could cast GIOVANNA in a jaded light. She strained, but did not break, relations with the Papacy with her "support" of the Antipope in selling Avignon in 1347 for much-needed money required to maintain her throne. She was the first to confer the title of Duke on a non-royal person, Francesco del Balzo who became the Duke of Andria. Around 1350 a devastating storm destroyed much of Castel dell'Ovo, including the natural arch that joined the two parts of the island. GIOVANNA declared the destruction was due to the breaking of Virgil's magical egg, but she had also (conveniently) rediscovered and repeated the same magical ritual as Virgil, putting a second protective egg in place in the same spot. It was she who formally renounced possession of Sicily, the island, in 1372 that brought about the end of the existence of two independent Kingdoms of Sicily.

Meanwhile, on the mainland, peace, unfortunately, did not rein either. When GIOVANNA I





Giovanna I d'Angio
1343-1382

died, despite four husbands and three children, she left no direct heir. GIOVANNA had designated Louis I, Duke d'Anjou and brother of the King of France (not to be confused with her second husband Luigi d'Angio of Taranto) as heir, though her cousin Carlo of Taranto (and soon-to-be murderer), Prince of Durazzo held a strong claim to the throne. (Durazzo is the second largest city of Albania) The Prince was a descendant of a younger son of Carlo II d'Angio, and his line was senior to that of a younger son of Roberto d'Angio, the Valois-Anjou. Carlo was crowned CARLO III, King of Naples by Pope Urbano VI in 1381 in retaliation for GIOVANNA'S support of Anti-Pope Clement VI who she sold Avignon to

in 1347 and Anti-Pope Clement VII. Avignon, though surrounded by French territory, was actually apart of the domains of the Neapolitan Kingdom. CARLO imprisoned GIOVANNA and she was removed from the stage in San Fele on 12 May 1382. She died but not under suspect circumstances; CARLO had ordered her to be strangled. While leaving no blood heirs for posterity, she did leave a saying which translates “*To be like Queen Giovanna*” which, when thrown at someone is not done to extol her virtues, but her vices, i.e. leading a loose and dissolute life.

The Avignon Popes

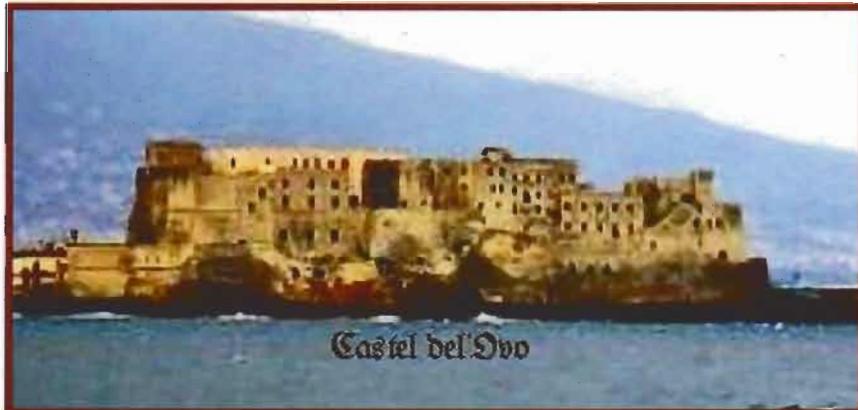
were Clement V (1305–1314); John XXII (1316–1334); Benedict XII (1334–1342); Clement VI (1342–1352); Innocent VI (1352–1362); Urban V (1362–1370); and Gregory XI (1370–1378) who returned to the Vatican in 1376.

With her murder the crown of Naples was disputed between GIOVANNA'S designated heir, Louis I, Duke of Anjou of the House of Valois-Anjou and the lawful heir, CARLO III of the House of Durazzo. CARLO III was the lawful heir if one accepts the premise that the ruling monarch can only designate the lawful heir as heir. Of course such a premise, being redundant is absurd. Since the premise is absurd, it stands to reason that a ruling monarch *can* designate an heir that is not the lawful heir. Ignoring the question(s) of succession in the female lines of both QUEENS GIOVANNA, Louis of Anjou as Luigi I, had the stronger claim. The dispute lasted over half a century, until 1435! Each claimant produced three monarchs: the House of Durazzo had CARLO III, the Short (1381-1386), LADISLAO, the Magnanimous (1386-1414) and GIOVANNA II (1414-1435); the House of Valois-Anjou had the unimaginative, if not requisite, LUIGI I (1382-



Carlo III Durazzo
1381-1386

1384), LUIGI II (1384-1417) and LUIGI III (1417-1426). LADISLAO also had a legitimate claim to the crown of Hungary, but abandoned the quest for it against overwhelming odds. The Francophilic Neapolitan Barons rebelled against the *Durazzeschi* LADISLAO and many fled to France to return in the



Castel del Ovo



Ladislaus of Durazzo
1386-1414



Giovanna II Durazzo
1414-1435

army of Charles VIII in 1494. He introduced the first marquisate, that of Pescaro, which he conferred on Cecio del Borgo. LADISLAO was twenty-eight when he died, leaving no heir; the crown landed on his sister's head. The House of Durazzo maintained the upper-hand since 1381 and the three Luigi's of Valois-Anjou are not accorded the status of Kings of Naples though by right, if not might, they were the legal monarchs. But then GIOVANNA II misread the saying "A change of *air* is good for you" as "A change of *heir* is good for you." Dedicated to fulfilling the misread saying she designated Alfonso, King of Aragon and Sicily as heir in 1421, reconsidered, revoked; designated Luigi III as heir in 1422, reconsidered, revoked; designated Alfonso again as heir in 1423, reconsidered, revoked; designated Luigi III again as her last choice for heir in 1426. But her last choice was not her last designation as Luigi died on 14 November 1434!



Renato d'Angio
1435-1442

GIOVANNA, her own days growing short, hurriedly designated Luigi's brother, RENATO D'ANGIO (René d'Anjou), THE GOOD (1409 – 1480), as her final heir to the throne in 1434. Claims from the rival houses of Valois-Anjou and Durazzo were each satisfied and when the queen died on 2 February 1435, a peaceful transition was eagerly anticipated.

At the time of the Queen's death, RENATO was in Dijon, France where he had spent the previous three and a half years as a guest of Philippe Le Bon, in his prison. RENATO had been captured on 30 June 1431 at the battle of Bulgneville and still had another three years to grow tired of having mustard on everything. His Neapolitan coronation took place in 1436 but Le Bon was intransigent; he refused to let RENATO attend his own coronation, the nerve of some people!

RENATO sat on the throne for almost eight war-torn years, if you include his prison time otherwise four war-torn years, as he vainly fought the armies of Aragon to keep it. The coat-of-arms pictured incorporates those of Naples in the upper center. RENATO almost lost Naples when Alfonso V d'Aragona, King of Sicily, besieged the city in 1439 and the king was forced to flee the capital on 6 June 1442 when the Aragonese army successfully stormed Naples. RENATO retired to Anjou and Provence, becoming an accomplished painter.



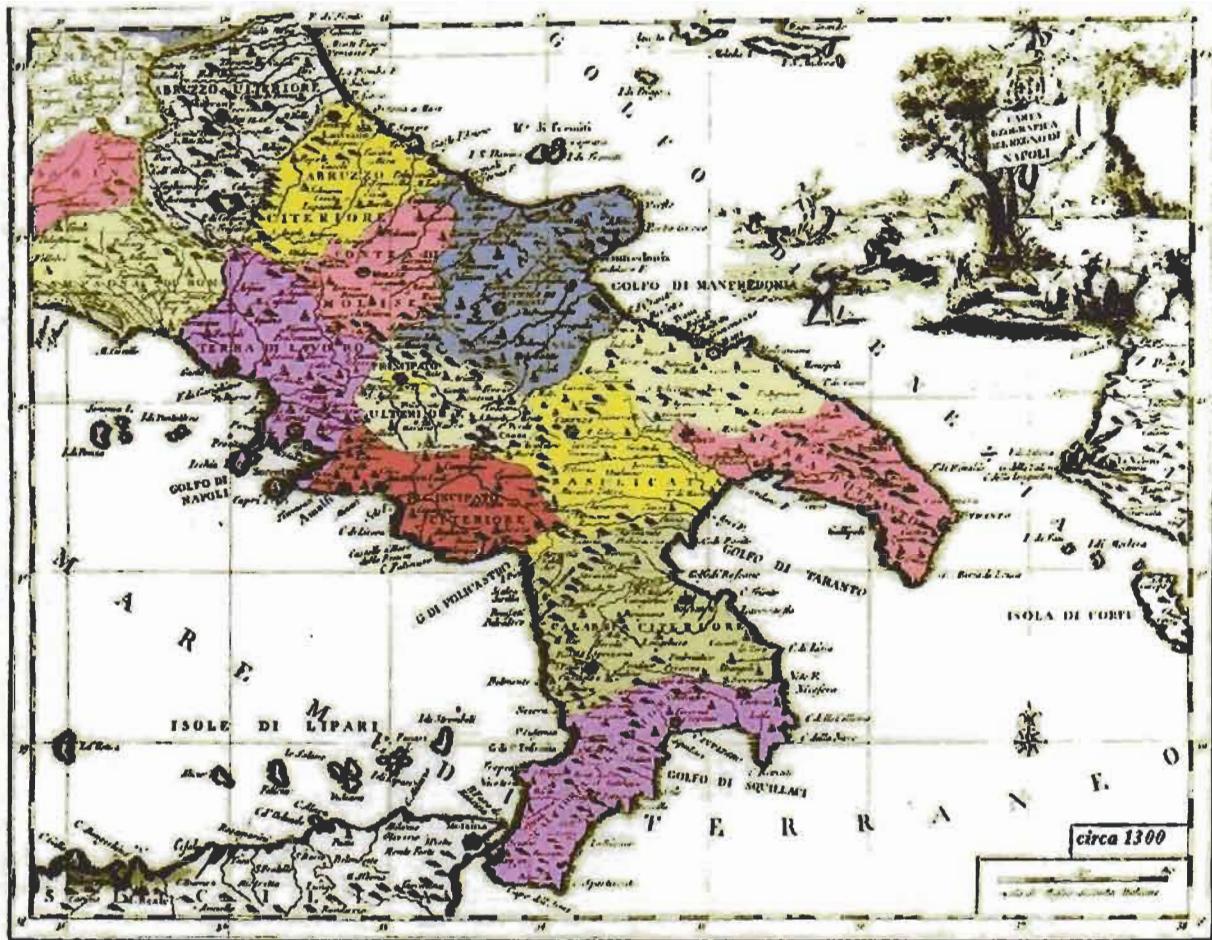
Coat-of-Arms after 1436 coronation

The House of Valois-Anjou continued to claim the throne and in 1458 RENATO sent his eldest son, Giovanni d'Angio, Duke of Calabria, to the aid of a Genoa being threatened with an Aragonese attack. Their claims continued through René III of Lorraine until the Treaty of Cateau-Cambrésis in 1559. The House of Valois, at this time supplying the Kings of France, also laid claim to the kingdom through an inheritance from the "retired" king-painter of Anjou.



Alfonso I d'Aragona
1416/1442 - 1458

Alfonso immediately declared RENATO deposed and was crowned ALFONSO I, King of Naples. He entered Naples 23 February 1443 riding a golden chariot under the shelter of a canopy borne aloft by thirty disgruntled Neapolitan nobles. In commemoration of this entry the *Aragonese Triumphal Arch* was built over the entrance of the *Maschio Angioino*. After one hundred forty years of separation ALFONSO presided over the reunification of the Kingdom of the Two Sicilies. ALFONSO "THE MAGNANIMOUS" was king of a Sicily united to Aragon and Naples until 1468 after which the two kingdoms separated with each crown going to a different son.



10: 1442 – 1501: THE ARAGONESE KINGS OF NAPLES



Pietro I d'Aragona
1282-1285

As this story is focused on mainland Sicily, the Neapolitan rulers are more fully discussed. Briefly, Aragonese rule in Sicily began in 1282 when Pedro III d'Aragona, of the House of Barcelona, was crowned PIETRO I, King of Sicily. As mentioned, the *Kingdom of the Two Sicilies*, now separated, had to adopt new nomenclature and, as with everything else, one version did not suffice. Once split, the individual parts were known, *unofficially*, as the *Kingdom of Naples* and the *Kingdom of Sicily*; *officially* as the *Kingdom of Sicily* (referring to the mainland territory) and the *Kingdom of Trinacria*; and *politically* as the *Kingdom of Sicily* and, well, the *other Kingdom of Sicily* (yes, there were two as “Sicily” had much more political caché than “Naples”). It would be almost half a millennium before the two were reunited.

The Aragonese Kings and Queens of Sicily commenced with Pedro III d'Aragona as PIETRO I, THE GREAT (1282-1285), GIACOMO I, THE JUST (1285-1295), his brother FEDERICO II/III (1296-1336), PIETRO II (1337-1342), LUIGI (1342-1355), FEDERICO III, THE SIMPLE (1355-1377), MARIA (1377-1395), a joint rule of MARIA and husband MARTINO I (1395-1401), and then MARTINO I, the YOUNGER (1401-1409) alone. MARTINO I of Sicily was the son of Martino I of Aragon. When the Sicilian MARTINO died, Sicily went to his father who became MARTINO II,

THE (no, not Older, despite the fact he was) HUMANE (1409-1410). Sicily was annexed to Aragon by this last monarch of the Catalan line and passed to the House of Trastámarra as determined by the compromise of Caspe in 1412. Sicily would remain under the Aragonese for more than another century, being ruled as a separate kingdom from Naples but with the same monarch beginning in 1442. FERDINANDO I D'ARAGONA ruled Sicily from 1412 until his death four years later. The crown went to his son, ALFONSO V.

The extinction of the Sicilian Catalan-Aragonese line in 1410 coupled with the impending extinction of the Angevin-Durazzo line of Naples as 1434 gave way to 1435 led to greater instability everywhere.

We left Napoli in the hands of the House d'Angio (Anjou), first the Capet-Anjou, created in 1246 and ruling in Naples from CARLO I (1266) through the murder of GIOVANNA I in 1382, then the Valois-Anjou from that point until RENATO D'ANGIO was deposed by ALFONSO D'ARAGONA, King of Sicily in 1442 and ruled both Naples and Sicily. ALFONSO considered his first year on the throne to be 1435, the year GIOVANNA II died. He maintained, with some validity, the Queen's first designation of him as heir in 1421 was not subject to revocation; he was the rightful heir, not RENATO, "the usurper." He styled himself **Re Sicilie Citra et Ultra Farum** with the occasional **Re Ultriusque Siciliae** thrown in signified his standing as one monarch in two kingdoms.

The Aragonese from the House of Trastámarra ruled the Kingdom of Naples separate from the Kingdom of Sicily and Aragon until 1516 after which they ruled the single **Kingdom of the Two Sicilies** separate from the Kingdom of Aragon. The Aragonese ruled from 1442 until 1714 with a brief French interlude in 1500 - 1504. ALFONSO I remained on the thrones until 1458. The Kingdoms of Sicily and Aragon went to ALFONSO's brother, GIOVANNI D'ARAGONA. In the Kingdom of Naples the crown went to his illegitimate son FERDINANDO I, also called FERRANTE I (1459-1494) and then grandson ALFONSO II (1494-1495). Many barons of the Kingdom supported Giovanni II d'Angio, son of the deposed RENATO D'ANGIO, in opposition to FERRANTE I. The King responded by enacting repressive measures which led to the 1485 **Conjure di Baroni** (Revolt of the Barons) led by the Sanservino

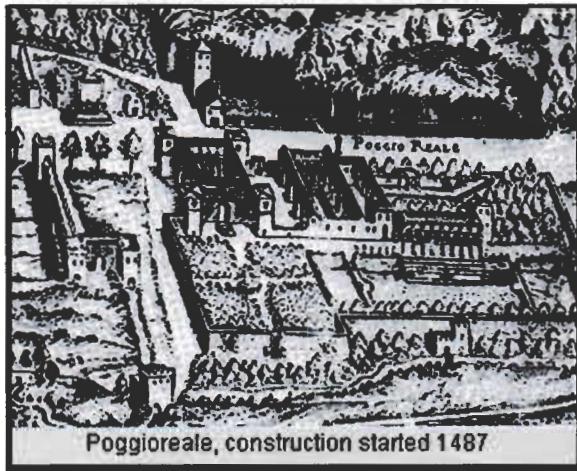


Ferrante I
1459-1494

and Coppola families, with support from Pope Innocent VIII (reigned 1484 – 1492). The royal family fled Naples, finding safety in the palace of the Gaetani in Piedimonte d'Alife which the author visited in 1995. The victory of the King is memorialized today in the great **Sala di Baroni** in the Castelnuovo. The leaders of the revolt were executed in that hall in August 1486 and the vast fortunes of the families confiscated. Some were fed to the crocodiles which **prowled the waters** of the moat. (A skeleton of one such reptile hung over **the arch in the Castle** until quite recently; no room in the closet I guess) FERRANTE **mummified** a few and kept them on display in the dungeon of the Castelnuovo. The meetings of the Naples city council are held in this very same hall today.



Alfonso I d'Aragona,
1396-1458 C.E.

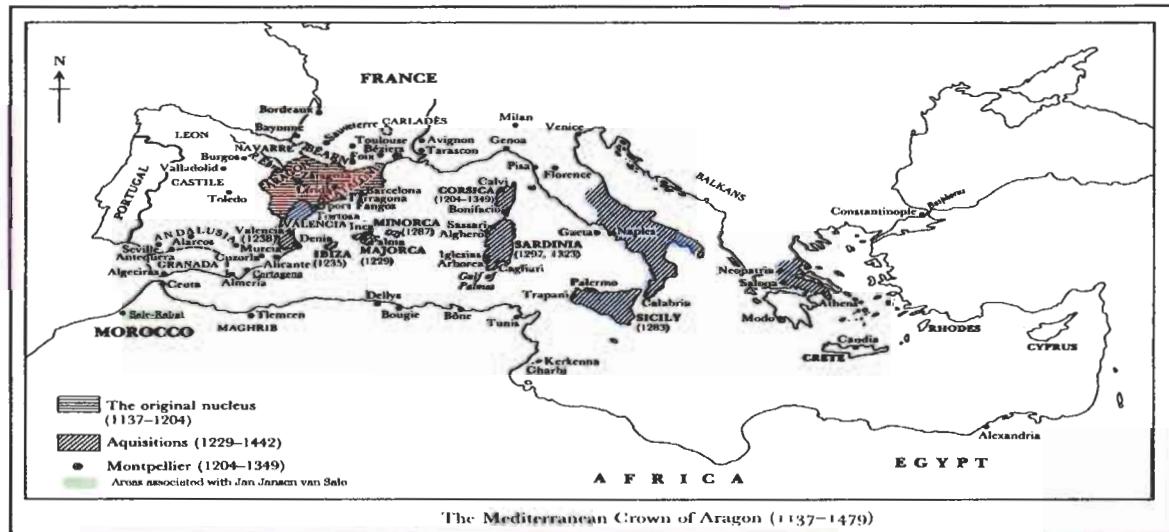


This rebellion has been credited by some historians as the point when the Angioini “lost” the kingdom because the former king’s son, Giovanni II d’Angio was a key conspirator.

FERRANTE started construction on the new royal palace *Poggio reale* in 1487.

Here now is a (hopefully) succinct noble history to help understand why they were revolting, in action to all and in deed, to some. The *condottiere*, or Baronial class were anything but homogenous. Remember how the Neapolitan nobles supported Angevin claims over Imperial ones? Well, this was geographically specific to the *city* of Naples, not the *Kingdom* of Naples.

The Barons of the kingdom, by definition holding lands outside of Naples, were much less fond of the French; many supported if not openly encouraged the Aragonese in their attempts to gain Naples. And having the Aragon Kingdom of Sicily nearby did not help the Angevin Neapolitan monarchy one bit as the King of Sicily was not reluctant in the least to lend support to causes and campaigns that destabilized Naples (in this instance, both the city and the kingdom). The Angevins hoped to defuse the situation by entering into the peace treaty of Miglionico with the unruly barons with concessions in taxes and military duties; and in public projects such as roads, schools and hospitals; and in defensive structures such as forts, walls and castles. Through these concessions, the monarchy hoped to secure the loyalty and support of the nobles. In a somewhat similar vein as when the Sicilians rejected the return to Angevin rule, the barons of greater Naples, i.e. the kingdom, not only rejected the Angevin overtures for loyalty and support, they aggravated it by demanding more. Eventually the monarchy was left in a poor state: militarily, defensively, financially and cohesively. Individual nobles assumed authority greater than law allowed as the king had no way to force respect for the law; they set up their own courts of law, built their own castles, employed their own armies and sought to expand their territories. The situation had to be reversed and suppression of the barons by the Viceroy of Naples in virtually completed by 1528.



The 1493 Treaty of Barcelona between Charles VIII, King of France and Ferdinand II, King of Aragon gave the French-Catalan towns of Roussillon and Cerdanya to Aragon in exchange for a pledge of non-interference by Aragon's military in southern Italy. Charles invaded Italy in September 1494 and reached Naples the following February.

ALFONSO II became King of Naples upon the death of his father FERRANTE I and reigned but one year, abdicating in favor of his son FERRANTE II in January 1495, entered a monastery in Messina and died before the year was over. France and Aragon asked for military aid from the

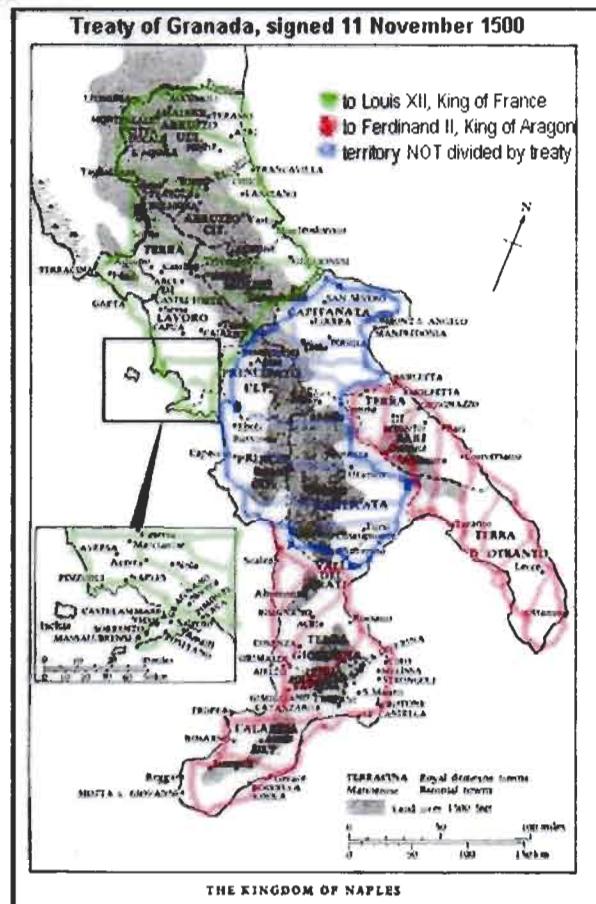


Ottoman Empire to fight FERRANTE II. Charles' justification was the transfer of the claim of the deposed king RENATO D'ANGIO to his nephew and then, upon the latter's death in 1481, to the crown of France. Met with initial success, Charles VIII was crowned King of Naples in 1495; had his reign been longer, he probably would have been recorded as CARLO IV VALOIS, King of Naples.

The people of Naples found this revolting and, accordingly, revolted – both in Naples and the rest of the kingdom – where they laid siege to the castles of the supporters of Carlos (IV). Aragon broke the treaty by forming the Holy League of 1495, also called the League of Venice, to oust the French "invader." Besides Aragon, the League included the Pope, the

Emperor and Venice. Aragon secured aid from the Doge of Venice in exchange for the Apulian coastal towns of Monopoli, Trani, Brindisi and Otranto. Valois rule lasted but a few months, ending before the year did. FERRANTE II was restored to the throne in June 1495 after Ferdinand II of Aragon interceded on his behalf. Many of the Valois-sympathizers accompanied the defeated French king on his retreat to France where they hoped to pressure him to invade again; for his part, CARLO died in 1498.

FERRANTE II died in the autumn of 1496 at the age of twenty-eight, without any offspring to inherit the crown. The crown went to his uncle, DON FEDERIGO of Naples, who became FEDERICO IV. This younger brother of ALFONSO II was crowned in Naples by the Pope in 1497 through the efforts of Cardinal Ablegate (Duke Cesare Borgia). Early in the last century, the elaborate sword used in the ceremony was in the possession of the GAETANI Duke of Sermoneta. FEDERICO ruled until being deposed by Louis XII, King of France. He did not know that Ferdinand II of Aragon and Louis XII, King of France signed the Treaty of Granada on 11 November 1500. The terms of the treaty called for deposing FEDERICO and dividing the kingdom: Apulia, Terra d'Otranto and the Calabrian provinces to Aragon and Napoli, Terra di Lavoro



(Campania), the Abruzzi, and the city of Gaeta to France. This division left four areas unclaimed – the **Capitanata** between Apulia and Abruzzi, **Basilicata** between Apulia and Calabria, and **Principato Ultra** and **Principato Citra** between Terra di Lavoro and Basilicata – creating a large buffer zone between the two kings to, in theory, facilitate a peaceful coexistence. In reality, the ambiguity established by this unclaimed buffer zone had the opposite effect. In the dark about this treaty, FEDERICO's request for Aragonese military aid was refused.

Louis XII offered FEDERICO asylum, a rich endowment and a position of honor in France for his abdication which, upon realizing the futility of war against both Aragon and France, he accepted in August 1501. FEDERICO'S son FERRANTE held out for seven months in Taranto, surrendering only after receiving a guarantee of freedom from the Aragonese military commander. This guarantee was repudiated by Ferdinand II and FERRANTE was taken and held as prisoner in Barcelona. Years later, his Spanish captors took precautions against attempts to reclaim the throne by arranging a marriage to Germaine de Foix, the widow of his jailer Ferdinand II. She could not bear children and when FERRANTE of Napoli-Aragón died in 1550, the line went extinct.

The King of France was crowned as LUIGI I VALOIS, King of Naples in 1501, beginning another short Valois reign. This one lasted longer than the few months of CARLO (IV), coming to an end in 1504 when Aragonese forces deposed him.

11: 1503 – 1700: A KINGDOM IN AN EMPIRE – THE VICEROYALTY OF NAPLES

Ferdinand II Habsburg and LUIGI I had a falling out over the formers somewhat unreasonable insistence to be recognized as both the King of Naples and the King of Sicily; the treaty was trampled in the ensuing squabble with the cause of the hostilities being blamed on the ambiguous buffer zone that had been created to lessen tensions and foster peace! FEDERICO IV died as LUIGI's prisoner in Tours just as the crown was being taken by Aragon in 1504. LUIGI I, for his part, gave his claim to the kingdom of Naples as part of the dowry of his relative, Germaine de Foix, upon her marriage to Ferdinand II in October 1505; the same Germaine de Foix that would later marry Ferrante, son of FEDERICO IV the former king of Naples! Ferdinand II, “the Catholic,” King of Aragon routed the French and was crowned FERDINANDO III, King of Naples and held the crown until his death in 1516. Once again, as in the time of his uncle, ALFONSO THE MAGNANIMOUS, the kingdom's sovereign was also the King of Aragon.



Ferdinand III Habsburg
1504-1516



Carlo IV Habsburg
1516-1554

The provincial barons cried “Treachery!” as it became apparent that what was represented as one person ruling two separate kingdoms had not, in fact, happened. Naples was being governed by a viceroy; between 1501 and 1504 they were appointed by LUIGI I and thereafter by the King of Aragon until Austria took over direct rule in 1714 where after the viceroy was appointed by CARLO VI HABSBURG until 1734. (For a list of the Viceroys, see appendix 2) To Royal eyes however, this was the only way to put an end to the unruly barons that had so destabilized the state. While it is true that the New World possessions were governed by viceroys, Naples was not designated as a viceroyalty or possession of Aragon as those across the Atlantic were. The Crown of Aragon was worn by the monarch of the separate Kingdoms of Aragon, Catalonia, Valencia, Sardinia, Sicily and Naples and the monarchy maintained that each



Carlo IV Habsburg
King of Sicily & Naples 1516-1554

kingdom was equal to all, lesser to none and separate from each.

This was a time when the Habsburg lands, immense in size, were concentrated in the hands of fewer people resulting in CARLO IV being the grandson and heir of not only FERDINANDO (II of Aragon & Sicily, III of Naples) and Isabella (I of Castile and León), but also of the Emperor, Maximilian I of Habsburg. Charles first inherited Burgundy and the Low Countries (Netherlands, Belgium, Flanders, etc) upon the death of his father Felipe I in 1506. With the death of his grandfather, FERDINANDO III, in 1516, he was declared King of Aragon, Sicily, Valencia, Majorca and Naples with his mother as QUEEN JUANA I. That same year he also became co-ruler with his mother, who had been queen since her own mother's death (Isabella I of Castile and León) in 1504, crowned as King of Castile and León. In 1519 upon the death of Maximilian I, Charles became Archduke of Austria and Holy Roman Emperor (elect) which was confirmed when the Pope crowned him in 1530. Due to his extensive titled

ancestry, Charles was designated as Carlos I of Spain (replacing Aragon, Castile, León & Navarre), CARLO III of Sicily, CARLO IV of Naples, Charles V, Holy Roman Emperor (the most often used) and several "II's in Burgundy and the Low Countries – and one of the more complicated coat-of-arms to ever be seen!. Scion of the Spanish- and the Austrian-Habsburgs proved too much of a burden for Charles and, assuming that no one could possibly be better than he at ruling, he set out to divide the House of Habsburg.

He shared every title, if not the power, with his mother, QUEEN JUANA, until her death in April 1555 excepting that of Naples, which CARLO IV bestowed on his own son Felipe in 1554, and Emperor. Felipe had earlier been married to Mary, the Catholic daughter of Henry VIII Tudor and Catherine of Aragon (wife 1 of 6). Mary was Queen of England until 1558 but her subjects had a strong dislike for her foreign husband. Her younger, and Protestant, half-sister, daughter of Henry VIII and Anne Boleyn (wife 2 of 6), ascended the throne, becoming Elizabeth I, the Great whose empire was close to being lost to that of Spain but instead became instrumental in the fall from height of European power of the empire of her former brother-in-law.



Filippo I Habsburg
1554-1558



Felipe was crowned FILIPPO I HAPSBURG, King of Naples in 1554. After a lifetime of co-rule with his mother, CARLO was sole sovereign in all the lands he co-ruled with JUANA except Naples (which he gave to FILIPPO in 1554) for nine months before his own death in January 1556. FILIPPO I, king of Naples, went back to Spain as Felipe II, king of Spain.

España, or Spain, came into existence in 1555 as the result of combining the Iberian kingdoms of Aragon, Navarre, Catalonia, Valencia, Castile and Leon but not necessarily their crowns. While the territory of the

kingdom of Navarre was split between Castile and France, the crown actually went to France in 1572 though the Spanish monarchy also claimed the title. The incorporation of Naples into the Aragon kingdom allowed basically unfettered access to all of the resources of that empire – wealth (remember all that gold from South America?), military (remember the Spanish Navy before its destruction under Elizabeth I?), religious (remember the Spanish Inquisition?). At the same time, the administrative and judicial functions remained unchanged for the most part except that now there was one more venue for appeal that was above the government of Naples; the kingdom remained autonomous to a large degree.

It was unfortunate that the kingdom had tied its fortunes to or, rather, had its fortunes tied, to that of a declining empire. Spain was at its zenith at the end of the fifteenth century; this was what allowed it to conquer Naples, discover the new world and still reap the benefits of centuries of occupation by Muslims before the loss of their cultural and agricultural advances plunged Spain into a “dark ages” that it has only reemerged from since the 1970s. The opening years of the sixteenth century witnessed the start of the decline and disintegration of the great Spanish empire even before Spain was created. It was a process started by Ferdinand and Isabella, one that would take two centuries to complete in Naples. What must not be overlooked is the fact that, though Spain’s strength and grandeur were on the decline, the high point from which that decline started was at levels of splendor and power never witnessed before. From so high a point, it would take two hundred years before disintegrating and this was a time of stability, peace, security and prosperity of a duration that was previously unknown in Naples.

Under the viceroy Pedro Alvarez de Toledo the Castel Sant’Elmo was rebuilt between 1537 and 1546. Construction on the Royal Palace in Naples started in 1600 under the viceroyalty of Ferdinando Ruiz de Castro for the new (1598) king, FILIPPO II who never saw it.



Filippo II Habsburg
1598-1621

The government in Naples often acted as arbitrator and mediator between the barons and everyone else. Acting as FELIPE III, King of Spain, and as FILIPPO II, King of Naples, significant energy and money had to be spent against the Barbary pirates of North Africa who menaced his Spanish, Sicilian and Neapolitan coastlines constantly. The strength of the Spanish Armada severely curtailed the raids of the Barbary pirates on the defensive side. On the offensive side, Neapolitan galleys besieged and captured the Albanian city of Durazzo which had become a safe-haven for pirates. At the beginning of the seventeenth century in Cartagena, Spain a son was born to Jan Jansen van Haarlem, a notorious pirate and privateer from Sale in Morocco, and his Berber wife. This son, Antony Jansen von Sale, came to New Amsterdam in 1629, bringing with him the first copy of the Qu’ran and

the first known European prostitute to this continent, his wife Grietje. Every person has 2,048 ninth-great-grandparents; Antony and Grietje are two of this number for the author. While it is true there were many enslaved Neapolitans in the Barbary states and foundations existed whose sole purpose was to raise the funds needed to ransom those enslaved, it is equally true that there were so many slaves in the Sicilian and Neapolitan kingdoms that, for easy identification, they were required to have a single tuft of hair on an otherwise shorn head to signify their status as a slave. The effects of the decay of the empire caused the barons to agitate for a return to being a separate kingdom; two candidates for the theoretical throne were discussed openly:

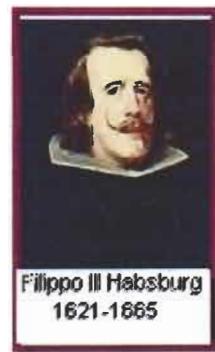
Don Juan of Austria (1547 – 1578), an illegitimate son of CARLO IV: The idea of “King Juan” was probably bandied about as an alternative to his half-brother, FILIPPO I, while he wintered in Naples in 1572 after leading the Holy League’s naval fleet to victory over the

Ottoman navy in the Battle of Lepanto the year before.

Almost a hundred years later the former Protestant Queen of Sweden, Christina (1626 – 1689), presented an enticing prospect. A recent, and surprising, convert to Roman Catholicism, she arrived at the gates of Rome in December 1655 to spend her remaining years in the realm of the Popes.

But I hesitate to paint a picture of a Utopian existence throughout the kingdom, for that is not what it was. Revolutions from within occurred, albeit unsuccessful ones if we are to measure success by the interruption of the established ruling monarchy. Successful revolutions if we are to measure success by the civil liberties allowed, the equitable application of the laws, the access to education and other civil projects such as better roads and hospitals, the curtailing of baronial excesses and the more equal distribution of the tax burden, not only to the barons but also to the ecclesiastical class. FILIPPO I's rule gave way upon his death in 1598 to his son FILIPPO II who was followed by his son FILIPPO III in 1621 (respectively Felipe II, III & IV of Spain).

In July 1647 a revolution occurred, following a similar occurrence in Sicily a year earlier, whose cries of "Long live the King!" and "Down with tyranny!" give an impression of a confusion of ideals. The revolutionaries were actually petitioning the king to intervene against the tyranny and abuses of his agent, the viceroy. The viceroy took refuge in Castel Sant'Elmo to escape the revolutionaries. This office had grown beyond what it was intended to do to the point of operating without the knowledge of the monarch: imposition of greater taxes, with the difference between the amount monarchy believed was collected and the amount that was actually taken, which frequently accounted for more than half, ending up in the private hands of the viceroy; the distribution of monopolies to supplicant barons; the granting of greater judicial responsibilities to baronial courts leading to criminals escaping prosecution by simply entering the neighboring barons domains; the abuse of the clergy who escaped legitimate property taxes on their private property by hiding it within the lands of the church which reduced their tax liabilities by seventy-five percent or more – these were the targets of the revolutionaries.



Filippo III Habsburg
1621-1665

The July revolution did not proceed as hoped for, but all was not lost for just three months later Henry II of Lorraine, 5th duc de Guise (1614 – 1664), was appointed to head the government as *Doge* (NOT as in How Much is that Doggie in the Window?) of the newly declared *SERENISSIMA REPUBBLICA DEL REGNO DI NAPOLI* (Most Serene Republic of the Kingdom of Naples). The serenity lasted just over half-a-year, but it was another step towards what? Towards something. Anything had to be better than what was; true, it was, perhaps, a case of the grass being always greener on the other side of the fence, but better none-the-less.

What was not anticipated or accounted for was the difficulty of the cries being uttered in southern Italy being heard in Spain. These voices, through the filter of the viceroyal machine, sounded threatening and offered the opportunity to garner more strength and corruption within its walls. Suppression of the revolts, more stringent restrictions on freedom of speech and the printed word ensued. What else was to be expected? The viceroy could not allow the monarch to know the truth; to do so would be to guarantee a charge of treason and certain death. From FILIPPO III's death in 1665 rule passed to his son CARLO V (Carlos II of Spain). His reign is pictured as being "stable" when, in reality, his mental and physical health were such that not only could he not effectively rule, he would have no offspring either. It was a reign of "wait and see" which only appears



Carlo V Habsburg
1665-1700

stable. In fact, France declared war four times during his reign: 1667, 1672, 1681 and 1689 and a state of war existed for nineteen of the forty-five years of the reign of *el Hechizado*. CARLO was plagued by epilepsy and his seizures caused many to believe he was possessed of a devil, or “bewitched” (this writer has not been able to document any relationship to Elizabeth Montgomery).

WHAT'S IN A NAME?

Before proceeding a clarification or elaboration of the status of the kingdom may be useful. Southern Italy refers to the insular portion, the island of Sicily, and the peninsular (meaning near or next to insular) portion, the mainland or Neapolitan portion. The **KINGDOM OF SICILY** rose in the middle of the 12th century and included both parts with the capital at Palermo on the island. In 1302 the kingdom was split for the first time: the island portion was under control of the Aragonese as the **KINGDOM OF TRINACRIA** with the same capital while the mainland part was under d'Angio rule as the **KINGDOM OF SICILY** with its capital being Naples.

At first the **Aragonese** were crowned as King of Aragon and, separately, as **KING OF TRINACRIA** (which they called Sicily, which can lead to a confusing history). The lands symbolized by the Crown of Aragon were later modified to include Trinacria meaning that when a **KING OF ARAGON** was crowned not only did that cover the area of Aragon but also Trinacria (and Valencia, Sardinia and Majorca). There was no separate coronation for the King of Trinacria. The lands under control d'Aragna are shown in the map on page 31; they all bordered the Mediterranean Sea and, as such, are called a “thalassocracy” a term reserved for maritime realms.

Meanwhile on the mainland, the d'Angio kept the throne but altered the name through common usage rather than by royal decree and the **KINGDOM OF SICILY** morphed into the **KINGDOM OF NAPLES**. In 1442 the kingdom fell to the Aragonese who did NOT attempt to recreate a single kingdom, though there was a single person as king of both at first. The separate status of each was reinforced when the two crowns, Aragon and Naples, went to different branches of the Aragonese.

The status of the lands of Southern Italy in 1700 was two crowns ruled: one **KING OF ARAGON** and the other **KING OF NAPLES**. The **KINGDOM OF NAPLES** was a dependency of the **KINGDOM OF ARAGON** until 1735 when it became an autonomous kingdom under the Spanish House of Borbón. References to the “**KINGDOM OF THE TWO SICILIES**” for periods of time prior to 1816, including those in this work are, strictly speaking, incorrect. The **KINGDOM OF THE TWO SICILIES** did not exist until 1816.

12: 1700 - 1734: HABSBURGS? – AUSTRIAN OR SPANISH?

This long, “stable” period would give way, on 1 November 1700, to thirty-five years of wars, occupied countries, and turmoil and, as always, suffering of the inhabitants. On that day Carlos II, King of Spain, (CARLO V of Naples) scion of the Spanish House of Habsburg, died without any children. In his will he bequeathed the throne, with its principality of Naples, to Philippe d'Anjou, prince of France and founder of the Spanish House of Borbón who was crowned **FILIPPO IV**. The neighbor to the north under the rule of Louis XIV was partially explainable by the destabilization

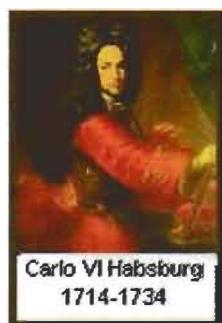


Filippo IV Bourbon
1700-1713

and devastation wrought during the nineteen years of war with France as the aggressor. The specter of the future King of France sitting on the throne of neighboring Spain, did not sit well with much of Europe. Putting aside their own differences, England, the Netherlands, Prussia, Austria and the Holy Roman Empire formed the Grand Alliance. The goal of the Alliance was to prevent Philip from possessing both crowns. To this end they “offered” their own candidate: Archduke Charles of Austria. This “offer” came with strings though; if the offer was rejected, they would resort to force to see that their candidate was placed where they wanted him. Needless to say this generous “offer” was rejected and good Queen Anne of England would give her name to the decade-long war that we know as the War for Spanish Succession.

As fate would have it, near the close of the war the Holy Roman Emperor, Joseph I, King of Austria, and, incidentally the head of two of the five member countries of the Grand Alliance, died leaving none other than his brother, the Archduke Charles, as his heir. Though Spain and Austria were not neighbors, the rest of Europe did not want one King for two separately-recognized Kingdoms. Seems the problem here was the number of Kingdoms, not their proximity as was first put out when the specter of a France and Spain being ruled by one person surfaced in 1700. The truth is more likely to have been greed, pure and simple. No King wanted another to be two Kings; didn’t that somehow imply superiority, after all Kings were God’s chosen and why would He chose this guy twice and me only once? It wasn’t fair! The end of 1711, all of 1712 and the beginning of 1713 saw the Grand Alliance, well, not being allies, or grand for that matter.

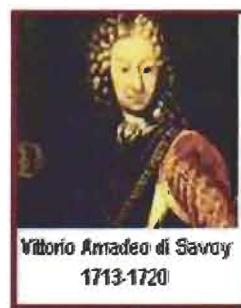
Not to be outdone, the French threw in their own complications: the ailing King Louis XIV of France lost **three heirs to the throne in rapid succession**: his son Louis in April 1711, his grandson Louis in February 1712, followed the next month by the next in line of succession, his great-grandson Louis, the Duke of Brittany, leaving only a three year old great-grandson, brother of the recently deceased Duke of Brittany, to continue the dynasty. (Louis XIV’s grandson Louis had three sons, all named Louis, two of whom died by March 1712 leaving the youngest Louis to become king – must have been during the little-known French “famine of given names other than Louis” period).



A negotiated peace ended the war in 1713 with the Treaty of Utrecht. **Philippe d’Anjou** would rule Spain as Felipe V as well as establishing the Spanish House of Borbón; the dauphin was passed over as heir to the throne of France in favor of the line of his brother Louis. Because of the already-mentioned untimely group of deaths in this younger son’s line, the living heir at the signing of the treaty was a great-grandson, the third of three brothers, of King Louis XIV.

To help pay for the cost of the war, Spain gave up its two Italian principalities: Naples was, by the 1714 Treaty of Rastatt, given to the Holy Roman Emperor, **CARLO VI** of the Austrian Habsburgs. Some sources give 1707 as the year that **CARLO VI** took possession of the crown of the Neapolitan kingdom, using the start of his effective rule rather than his crowning. He remained **on the throne until 1735**.

The second Italian principality lost by the Spanish was Sicily, which was ceded to **Vittorio Amadeo, Duke of Savoy** in 1713. The House of Savoy had ruled the Alpine passes between France and Italy since the fifteenth century with varying success and fortunes. During peacetime, the House and their domain languished, during war they prospered.



Fighting first with, then against, Philippe d'Anjou, the Duke of Savoy was amply rewarded by his one-time enemies. Queen Anne's War bestowed upon the Savoyard House its first royal crown: VITTORIO AMADEO II, Duke of Savoy became the King of Sicily. Spain invaded Sicily in 1718 during the War of the Quadruple Alliance. To settle some international difficulties VITTORIO traded, by the terms of the 1720 Treaty of The Hague, the Sicilian crown for the Sardinian crown and CARLO VI of Austria, who had been the King of Sardinia since 1707 and King of Naples since 1714, became CARLO IV, King of Sicily from 1720 to 1734.

13: 1735 - 1806: THE SPANISH HOUSE OF BOURBON: THE BORBÓN MONARCHS



King Carlos VII Borbón
1735-1759 C.E.

The War of Polish Succession resulted in a 1734 Spanish Borbón victory in Sicily and Naples over the Austrian CARLO VI. Carlos III de Borbón, King of Spain, a younger son of Felipe V, King of Spain was forced by treaty to relinquish the title Carlos I, Duke of Parma for that of CARLO V, King of Sicily and CARLO VII, King of Naples: two Kingdoms for one Duchy – not a bad exchange. Felipe V founded the Spanish House of Borbón (Spanish for Bourbon) which provided for the thrones of Naples and Sicily between 1735 and 1806 though Austria would attempt to retake the throne several times. In 1744 the Empress Maria Therese sought baronial support by offering to restore to them their privileged status of years gone by. The last vestiges of the ancient Neapolitan baronage found expression through the “Austrian party” of mid-eighteenth century Naples.

CARLO VII ruled from 1735 to 1759 when he stepped down to become Carlos III, King of Spain. He built four Royal Palaces. In 1738 construction started on the palaces in Capodimonte and Portici and a full century would pass before they were completed. In 1752 construction was started on the 1200-room royal palace at

Caserta which ended in 1780. The reasons for building the Palace were to have a new magnificent administrative capital of the Kingdom in Caserta and to protect the court from possible attacks from the sea, being twenty kilometers north and inland from Naples. The King also decided to build a theatre, a large library, and a university. FERDINANDO, the third son of CARLO VII, became the fourth with that name to be King of Naples in 1759. He married Maria





The Royal Palace

at Caserta
is the third
of the four
Royal Palaces.

The fourth
(pictured later)
is in Naples.

Carolina of Austria, daughter of the Habsburg Empress Maria Therese in 1768. CARLO'S wife was sister to Marie Antoinette, the murdered Queen of France. MARIA CAROLINA'S strong personality coupled with her husband's mildness, meant she was *de-facto* ruler from 1768-1812.

The Kingdom exerted control over matters of religion during this period. The long arm of the Roman Curia was broken when the Jesuits were expelled. Naples refused to send the customary homage of a white horse and 7000 gold *scudi* after 1780. Naples became one of the capitals of the European Enlightenment and the liveliest and most liberated city in Italy. The feudal system was actively being suppressed in Naples.

During 1798 – 1800 French revolutionaries forced the royal court to flee to Palermo on Sicily. The French invaders established a republic based on the early Greek colony of Parthenope at this location, founded on the spot where the siren Parthenope died. The *Parthenopaean Republic* was short-lived and was also called *Repubblica Napoletana*. After French troops had withdrawn, FERDINANDO's Calabrian armies, backed-up by British artillery, succeeded in routing the republicans in May 1800.

The monarchy, the bulwark of civil reform and progressive politics, was shocked by this turn of events. The very classes the monarchy triumphed against the barons had revolted and gone over to the French. The Queen, initially a supporter of the French revolutionaries, became an ardent enforcer of the ruthless and complete eradication of their Neapolitan equivalents, with



Ferdinando IV, King of Naples,
1759-1806

good reason, after witnessing the murder of her younger and favorite sister Marie Antoinette, Queen of France at their very hands. The court fled again to Sicily where the crown of that kingdom remained on their heads despite a constitution being forced upon them by the British.

A decade of kings imposed by the French under the regime of Bonaparte interrupted the BORBÓN monarchy. This rule witnessed dramatic changes and the monarchy afterwards can only be seen as a continuation of that which existed before if one considers the person involved: FERDINANDO was king before and after.



MARIA CAROLINA
1768-1812

14: 1806 – 1815: FROM NAPLES TO BORDENTOWN

Five centuries had passed since CARLO I D'ANGIO had made the city of Naples his capital. Now, the problems created by five-hundred years of inordinate dominance of the city had to be rectified. For five centuries Naples had attracted all to its environs: monarchs and their courts, foreign ambassadors and consulates, leaders of business, the provincial barons who built palatial residences in which they spent the majority of their time, rarely returning to their lands, military commanders and their squadrons with all the required support service people, the servants and maids, tailors and weavers as well as the unemployed. The urban population of the kingdom could be found in this one center which was growing at an alarming rate. The urban population, if that is what we allow it to be named, of years prior to the glory of Naples was to be found in Bari, Barletta, Taranto, Sorrento, Aversa and Caserta and many other provincial towns and cities which had been reduced to little more than rural villages by the nineteenth century. This inequality between the urban and provincial could not be adequately addressed from within. What was required was a virtual and total overhaul of the government – a process that required a strong and determined leader – who appeared on the island of Corsica and was destined to become an Emperor – Napoleon Bonaparte. On 27 December 1805, he declared the BORBÓN dynasty deposed while a republic was established of the states to the north of the Papal States.

The Kingdom was partitioned into fourteen provinces governed by a council which, in turn, were subdivided into districts governed by their own councils. The court system was overhauled and with the institution of the Napoleonic Code, laws were equitably applied throughout the kingdom. Elementary schools in each district were complemented by provincial high schools; a national military force with a civil militia and a conscripted army was established.

Napoleon's first King of Naples was his older brother GIUSEPPE



Giuseppe Bonaparte
1806-1808



Gioacchino Murat
1808-1815

BONAPARTE. He was transferred to Spain in 1808 and, after Napoleon's 1814 defeat, lived for a number of years on his estate, *Pointe Breeze* in Bordentown, New Jersey. (See Appendix 3: *Pointe Breeze*)

GIUSEPPE was followed on the throne by GIOACCHINO MURAT, husband of Napoleon's sister Caroline. MURAT had dreams of a unified Italian peninsula under a monarchy, with none other than himself as King. Interesting, Bonaparte rule did not end

in Naples in 1814 when the French Emperor was overthrown. MURAT remained on the throne of Naples for another year. Napoleon, banished to Elba as ruler, attempted a come-back and his Hundred Days regime was ended at Waterloo on 18 June 1815. Austrian forces invaded the northern Italian states and overthrew the Bonaparte rule. The people of Naples came to support a restoration of the Borbón monarchy and GIOACCHINO was deposed and shot. Pro-Borbónist forces prepared to restore a much more supplicant and agreeable FERDINANDO.



Gioacchino Murat
1808 - 1815

15: 1816 – 1860: THE CONSTITUTIONAL MONARCHY OF THE DI BORBONE



Ferdinand I di Borbone
1815-1825

FERDINANDO had continued his rule as King of Sicily only by the presence of a British military sent to check the spread of Napoleon's empire. The Queen was forced to return to her homeland of Austria in 1810 where she died two years later. This same British presence came not without cost; the forced adoption of a constitution changed the monarchy from an autocracy to a constitutional monarchy. FERDINANDO made his son Francesco, the eldest surviving son of the seventeen children he would have by the Queen, regent in Sicily in preparation of his return to the mainland. FERDINANDO returned a widower as FERDINANDO IV, King of Naples on 3 May 1815. Naples and Sicily were once again to become one country, Two Sicilies, on 12 December 1816 by FERDINANDO's declaration (It's good to be the King!); he was

crowned FERDINANDO I, KING OF THE TWO SICILIES with Naples being the capital. To celebrate, he went back on his word and abolished the Sicilian constitution.

Without his headstrong wife by his side, the King blundered along for a few years before the populace had enough of his shenanigans. Scholars date the drive for independence from the collapse of the Napoleonic Empire, a process not considered actualized until the start of the Franco-Prussian War in 1871. A Sicilian revolt for independence was suppressed by sending a large part of the Neapolitan army to the island. The forces left behind were strong sympathizers of the *Carbonari*, a secret society based on Freemasonry that fomented rebellions and agitated for a liberal, unified Italy. They were instrumental in the attempt to abandon the kingdom by GIOACCHINO MURAT five years earlier. They established a revolutionary government in 1820 which resulted in a Neapolitan constitution being adopted by the monarchy. The constitution was repudiated by the King almost before the ink dried on the document. *La Giovine Italia* (Young Italy) was born from the wreckage of the *Carbonari* in 1831 and would continue the fight for unified Italian Republic free from Austrian domination. The Neapolitan branch of the Spanish

House of Borbón began using the Italian “di Borbone” by 1825, probably in an effort to appear less foreign. FERDINANDO I was followed by his son FRANCESCO I DI BORBONE (1825-1830).

Revolutions rocked Europe in 1848, including Sicily and Naples. Austria's suppression of the revolt throughout their Empire left the state greatly weakened. The First War for Italian Independence began in March 1848 and was fought in Piedmont, the Papal States as well as the Two Sicilies Kingdom. The rebel armies of *La Giovine Italia* took advantage of Austria's weakened state. This war ended August 1849. The most well-known, and effective, leader of the forces for independence was Count Camillo Benso di Cavour. He would serve as the Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Piedmont-Sardinia in the court of King Victor Emmanuel II. The dreams of a democratic Italy were crushed by Austria in 1853.



Francesco I di Borbone
1825-1830

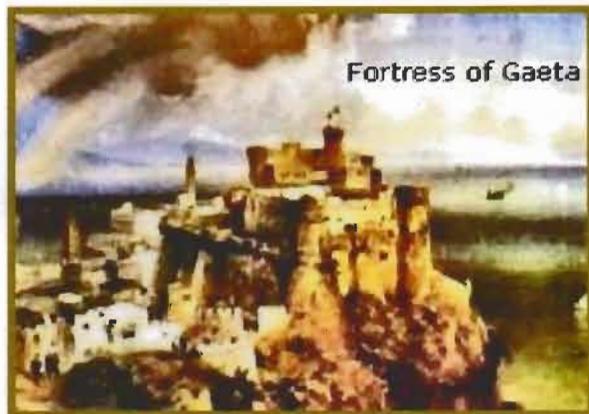


Ferdinando II di Borbone
1830-1859

Backed by the Austrian military, KING FERDINANDO II DI BORBONE (1830-1859) responded ruthlessly. All civil liberties were curtailed; thousands were imprisoned and executed; many more were exiled. As the Kingdom degenerated under the repressive measures of the monarchy, the revolution benefited as more Neapolitans became disenchanted with the Austrian occupiers. The Second War for Italian Independence started in May 1859 and resulted in the king's abdication. The rebels needed allies to win their fight for independence. Many of the exiles of 1820 and 1849 had fled to France and used their influence with the French Emperor Napoleon III who became a Piedmontese ally. The fruits of this war were the annexation of the Duchy of Lombardy with its capital of Milan to the Kingdom of Piedmont-Sardinia. On 5 March 1860 the Piedmont-occupied city-states of Parma, Tuscany, Modena and Romagna “voted” to join the growing Kingdom of Sardinia. Napoleon III growing concerned about this growing neighbor to the south “allowed” this enlargement in exchange for Savoy and Nice being added to the French Empire.

FRANCESCO II DI BORBONE (1836 – 1894), only twenty-four years old, tried valiantly to hold together his kingdom but had little chance in the face of Garibaldi's invasion of Sicily and subsequent mainland landing south of Naples. FRANCESCO II's main, professional army was made up of hired Swiss mercenaries. These troops were recalled due to changes made in Swiss law which left only the native troops that, with good reason, he was suspect of. As Garibaldi marched north towards Naples unopposed, a state of siege was declared for the city of Naples and on 6 September 1860 the King fled to avoid a certain blood-bath. With 4,000 loyal troops, he established a front on the Volturro River. The following day Garibaldi entered Naples, declared the Borbone monarchy deposed and made himself dictator. The Battle of the Volturro was fought on 1 October 1860 with the King commanding an army of 25,000 which was almost matched by Garibaldi's 24,000. The United States had apparently failed to live up to promises of aid to the monarchy which exacerbated the situation and the young King and Queen were forced to retreat.

The King, with 12,000 men, and his



Fortress of Gaeta



Francesco II di Borbone
1859-1860

Queen, MARIA SOPHIE (1841 – 1925) who had just turned nineteen, headed to the fortress of Gaeta where they secured their position on 13 November 1860. In the Bay of Gaeta, the French Navy protected the right flank of the royalist forces until February 1861. Napoleon III broke his treaty with FRANCESCO II and, as the French battle ships headed to home ports, those of the Piedmont Navy sailed in. The Piedmontese trained their cannon on the remnants of the Borbone forces, opened fire and decimated the remaining troops. FRANCESCO II realized his kingdom was indeed lost. On 13 February 1861 he surrendered the fortress and abdicated. The exiled King and Queen boarded the French ship *Mouette* in Gaeta taking refuge in the Farnese palace in Rome. Rome would not fall to the Risorgimento until 1870. He died in the town of Arco in December 1894.

16: 1861 – THE “UNIFICATION” OF ITALY

The Kingdom of Italy came into existence by declaration on 17 March 1861. The hoped for capital was Rome though with that still in the Pope's grasp, Turin served as capital until 1865 when it was moved to Florence until it could be moved to Rome in 1870. The first parliament of the unified Italy was held in Florence in 1865. It was at this time that Victor Emmanuel II, King of Sardinia asked for, and received, the right to be titled VICTOR EMMANUEL II, KING OF ITALY despite being the first king. Many non-Sardinian Italians felt that this confirmed what had been said all along: this was not “unification” at all but a massive land-grab by the Sardinian monarchy. For years the “unifying” troops and government officials were *stranieri*, foreigners just as the French, Spanish and Austrians had been over the centuries. Only time and familiarization changed their status to *forestiere*, merely outsiders.

Pro-Borbone groups continued to agitate until 1914. The head of the Neapolitan-Bourbons descended through Alfonso Maria Giuseppe di Borbone, Francesco II's brother, to the third son of Alfonso, Renier di Borbone, Principe di Borbone della Due Sicilie, duke of Castro until 1973, followed by his son Ferdinand di Borbone, Principe di Borbone della Due Sicilie, and then his son Principe Carlos di Borbone della Due Sicilie, upon whom the title duke of Calabria, signifying the heir to the throne, has been bestowed.

In a similar manner to the fight for independence of the United States, the various states of Italy were fighting their way out from under Austrian domination. Unification of the thirteen colonies into the original states of this country, while having their share of diplomatic, social, cultural and political difficulties to be overcome, there existed a strong centripetal force that fostered the union of the states. There was not the forced annexation of a state and concomitant overthrow of the ruler by the militia of another state as there was in the Italian, or rather Sardinian, quest for unification.

The Italian situation presents a conundrum without answer: who deserved to be called a patriot? The answer is not really an answer, as there is no satisfactory answer. The question must be modified: who deserved to be called an Italian patriot? Who deserved to be called a Neapolitan patriot? For, in reality, both sides were patriotic; the Neapolitans to their monarch and the opposing forces to an Italy that included the Neapolitan Kingdom. Unlike here in the United States there did not exist the inherent impossibility of combining two large monarchies as with the Kingdom of Sardinia and the Kingdom of the Two Sicilies peaceably with each retaining their ruler with the same power, autonomy and authority.



King Vittorio Emanuele
1861-1979 C.E.

The Third War for Italian Independence was declared on 19 June 1866 with Prussia allied with Italy against Austria. The Italian Army and the Navy, the *Regia Marina*, were torn by rivalries between the two major components – Naples and Piedmont, which left the question of who would be the victor wide open until Prussia's entrance. An armistice was declared on 12 August 1866 and the ensuing treaty annexed Mantua and the western part of the former Venetian Republic to Italy. In 1867 Garibaldi attempted to force the capitulation of the remaining rump of the Papal States, including Rome. This time the former French allies protected the Pope to Garibaldi's defeat. Rome, and the Papal States, fell to the Kingdom of Italy on 20 September 1870. It was only in 1915 that the cities of Trento, Bolzano and Trieste were incorporated into the Kingdom.

From the twenty-first century, it seems almost contradictory that the unified Italian state, with its antiquity, is less than 150 years old! The ancient Kingdom of Italy was limited to a federation of city-states in the north that had little cohesiveness and less effect. The

southern part of the peninsula was not a part of any historical Italy, nor did it want to be considered as such.

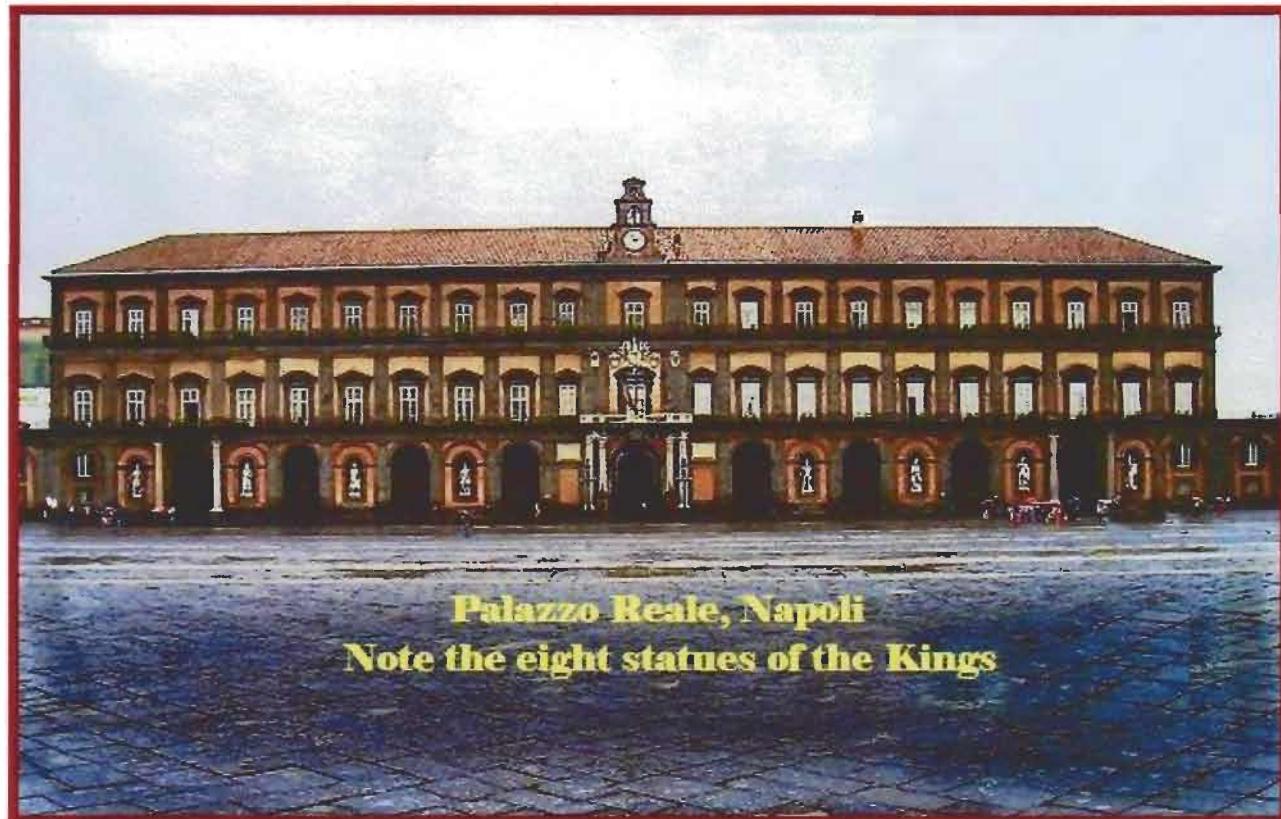
The forced inclusion of the Kingdom of Naples had significant ramifications for the new geopolitical unit called Italy. The south brought with it almost half of the land of a combined Italy; a constitutional monarchy instead of a republic; a greater inequality in the distribution of wealth; higher illiteracy; excessive centralization of government; and the fact that the rise of fascism after unification found greater support in the south. It also brought with it a market for the industries of the north, which decimated the industrial development pursued by the last monarchs; Italian scholarship was raised due to the drive of the intellectual southerners; and a sobering consideration of what was realistic versus idealistic with the conservative brakes of the south countering the liberal acceleration of the north.

Did the economic status of the citizens improve overall? The fact that emigration from the former Kingdom started after the “unification” of Italy and that it would reach staggering proportions by the decades on either side of the turn of the century could be indicative of an improvement or a worsening of the socioeconomic status of the southern Italian population. Did people have more wealth which then allowed for emigration? Or, did the economy get so bad that people were forced to emigrate or starve?

The enmity of the northern and southern Italians towards each other is still a very real fact today. *Polentoni*, meaning “polenta-eaters” and worse “mushy-brained,” is a pejorative sobriquet given to northern Italians by those from the south while, in the reverse situation, *terroni* is the derogatory term applied. *Terroni* refers to being lower class, or “of the dirt (terra).” The Italian peoples have always been wary, with good reason, of outsiders (way beyond being merely ethnocentric) and, in fact, they have a word that describes this trait. *Campanilisti* means “attached to their town's bell tower.” Everything beyond the sway of the tower is suspect, or perhaps a rival. Reminds me of the Hamilton versus Steinhardt rivalry of my high school years.

We are left with the fact that Italy *did* survive. That could not happen if the negative consequences of unification outweighed the positive ones. Italy survived; that alone leads to the only possible conclusion: the advantages did outweigh the disadvantages. In fact, in its own way, it survived *twice*. A nationwide referendum, with voting limited to propertied males, on 12 June

1946 offered two choices for governmental structure: a keep the monarchy, the Savoyard one, not the Neapolitan di Borbone or depose UMBERTO II SAVOY. UMBERTO II became King of Italy since his father's abdication the previous month. UMBERTO'S reign of 33 days ended with the creation of the Republic of Italy. This vote occurred during and under the auspices of the American occupation of Italy during World War II. While the Republic carried the day in the total count of Italy, the monarchy won by a ten-to-one landslide in Naples (despite it being Savoyard!). Enrico de Nicola became Provisional Head of State on 28 June 1946.



In 1885, UMBERTO I SAVOY, King of Italy, installed statues depicting the founders of the eight stranieri (foreign) and forestieri (outsider) dynasties that ruled Naples: RUGGERIO II D'ALTAVILLA, FEDERICO I HOHENSTAUFEN, CARLO I D'ANGIO, ALFONSO I "THE MAGNIFICENT" D'ARAGONA, CARLOS IV HABSBURG, CARLOS III DE BORBONE, the BONAPARTIST GIOACCHINO MURAT and VICTOR EMMANUEL II OF SAVOY.

17: ORGANIZED CRIME IN THE COMPANIA AND SICILY

For ten centuries southern Italy and Sicily had been dominated by despotic foreign powers. The Bourbons' formula for governing the lower orders of southern Italian society epitomized the social policies of all the region's conquerors. It was *feste, farina, e fórca*, literally "festivals, bread, and the gallows."

In Naples principal piazza, immense marble statues of the conquerors and oppressors of southern Italy stare down from arched niches along the Pompeian red façade of the Palazzo Reale, the former palace of the Spanish viceroys and Bourbon kings. To some they are mute

symbols of ten centuries of despotic indifference to the needs of ordinary people.

To meet those needs, a secret brotherhood sprang into existence in and around Naples in the early nineteenth century that placed itself in direct opposition to the state. It came to be known as the Camòrra, after a Spanish word meaning combat. The Camòrra had become a *sottogoverno*, a subgovernment, more responsive to the need of the average citizens than either the church or the state. To fulfill the needs, non-governmental criminal activity was required to counter the governmental criminal activity – materials slated for public improvements were routinely stolen by governmental officials. To get the supplies to their intended destination, the Camòrra had to hijack trains, break into storage depots and countless other “criminal” acts to take what was rightfully theirs. Of course the only criminal activity recognized by the state was that done by non-government personnel.

By the second decade of the twentieth century a certain character had become ubiquitous in the piazza of Naples and surrounding towns of Campania: a Camòrrista known popularly as Il Guapo, Neapolitan dialect for ‘Il Capo.’ The Camòrra has small groups led by a “caporegime”, and is governed by a Grand Ruling Council. Camorra was city-based from the start, unlike the rural Mafia. Il Guapo was the local representative of the Camòrra. It was Il Guapo who became the real functioning government in a given community. It was he who drew up and enforced contracts for farmers and merchants, loaned money to people the banks turned down, “protected” shops and farms, taxed lotteries and the auctioneering of livestock at fairs, arranged marriages for unwed mothers, helped take revenge on rapists and the deserters of wives, and, in general, policed the community to which he had been assigned.

The Honored Society, or Mafia, as it was less often called, was a vast criminal brotherhood that had developed in Palermo and western Sicily independently of the Camòrra of Naples. What distinguished the Mafia from the Camòrra was the rapidity of its advance and the degree to which it had permeated Sicilian society. Whereas the Camòrra had developed relatively slowly and at best had attained but a limited influence in southern Italy, perhaps because the boot of Italy was so much larger than Sicily, the Honored Society took advantage of the political vacuum following the guerilla leader Garibaldi’s “liberation” of Sicily from the Borbone monarchy in 1860 and seized power so rapidly that by 1900 it controlled virtually the entire western third of the island.

For, long before organized criminal brotherhoods began to grow and prosper in western Sicily, the Mafioso outlook, or attitude, had come to dominate the Sicilian consciousness. Centuries of foreign oppression had bred in the Sicilian people a deep-seated antagonism to all legally constituted authority. To be against the ruling establishment gradually became the accepted attitude and to resist it the accepted behavior. To be a Mafioso was to be a man in a certain, well-defined sense, a man who stood up for his rights and those of his family against the incursions and effronteries of the state. For centuries the Mafioso type had existed in Sicily as an individual who had attained honor and respect by always standing up for his rights and never shrinking from their defense, even if it meant taking another man’s life to maintain his “honor.”

In New York City during the 1890s, the Italians brought with them many traditions – their festivals, their food, their language... and their Camòrra. Receiving the “Black Hand” – a plain white piece of paper with a handprint in black was used as a threat, often meaning to pay for the “available” security services or face a possible fire, or worse.



Other organized crime syndicates on the mainland include:
the *Ndrangheta* in Calabria, the *Basilicata* in Lucania,
and the *Sacra Corona Unita* in Puglia.

18: FORWARD TO THE PAST

“The South shall rise again” is popular in the Italian Deep South as well as Americas. The perception of southern Italy as being separate from the rest of the Republic has not lessened over the last century and a half. It is still perceived as a distinct region, a perception based in fact. A full-fledged independence movement for the whole of the former Kingdom of the Two Sicilies – the Mezzogiorno and Sicily – has been gaining more support as time passes. The organizations **Movimento Neoborbonico** and **Due Sicilie** have been at the forefront of this cause. The former, active for almost 20 years, is dedicated to the restoration of a Borbone monarchy at the head of an autonomous kingdom while the latter is most interested in achieving independence first and leaving the question of governmental structure to be decided.

Naples, prior to “unification” was one of Europe’s four leading cities – with London, Paris and Vienna rounding out the group. Its banks were emptied of 80 million ducats (more than \$1 billion), transported to the north. The destruction of an industrial base of over 5,000 factories created a south dependant on the north for manufactured goods which still exists today.

The forced inclusion in the Republic, coupled with the destruction of its industries which greatly exceeded that of the north, created a real difference from the north – agrarian versus industrial – that was distorted so as to give the appearance that this difference had been in existence prior to 1860. The reality was that the south was vastly superior to the north in terms of industry and production and, without destroying the economic base of the south, the unification would only be possible under a Borbone. The very real existence of a fiscal imbalance between the two areas has only served to feed the feelings of resentment felt by each toward the other.

Whatever the future may hold for the Two Sicilies – the supporters are optimistic – the three candidates for the design of the new nation’s blazon have already been chosen:



In the upper left is the Borbone coat-of-arms, representing all dynasties who ruled the Two Sicilies as an Independent State; the Seal of Sicily in the upper right; the Seal of Naples in the lower left represents all of continental southern Italy; and in the lower right is the Aragonese Flag (Señera), with the Eagle of Frederick II, to stress the origin of the unitarian State (with Frederick II) and its consolidation under Spanish rule.



The seal has in the upper left quadrant two white and blue checkerboard borders representing the Normans with a fleur-de-lys to represent both the House of Anjou and that of Bourbon; the upper right has a different style of eagle to represent Frederick II; the lower left is the Seal of Sicily; and the lower right displays the red and yellow stripes (Señera) that represent Spain (Aragon).



This last seal only differs from the first in the lower right quadrant. In place of the Aragonese flag and eagle is a Greek Helmet and an Oscan shield, to symbolize the ancient Greek and Italic roots of the Two-Sicilian State on a blue background.

THE PAPAL STATES AND SARDINIA.

The *Paris Patrie* contains the following:

"The Piedmontese have not yet entered the Papal States. The reports concerning the revolutionary movements in the Marches and Umbria are exaggerated.

ROME, Saturday, Sept. 8, (*via Marseilles.*)

A panic prevails here. M. Menode has left for the Neapolitan frontier. The town of Frosinone has been declared in a state of siege. The news of an insurrection at Ponte Corvo has been confirmed. Sardinian troops are advancing through Tuscany and the Romagna, to be in readiness to enter the Papal States. Gen. Lamoriciere has concentrated his troops at Spoleto, and has denied the alleged order of the day in which he was said to have directed his soldiers to plunder any town which should rise in insurrection.

SEPTEMBER 9.

Gen. Pianelli has arrived here to announce to the Pope the retreat of the King of Naples to Gaeta.

Monsignor Menode, with 200 gendarmes, has proceeded to Frosinone, where 5,000 workmen engaged on the railways threaten an outbreak.

The Piedmontese troops have arrived at the frontiers of the Roman States.

The entry of Garibaldi into Naples has thrown the Papal Government into a state of consternation.

The Papal troops have left Pesaro and Sinigaglia. A French regiment arrived at Rome to-day.

The Marquis Simoni has been appointed Chief of the Government at Benevento; and Prignani, a man of the lower orders, as Chief of the Government of Ponte Corvo.

BOLOGNA, Monday, Sept. 10—Evening.

The town of Urbino has been fortified. The Provisional Government has proclaimed the annexation of the province of Urbino to Sardinia, amid shouts of "Long live VICTOR EMANUEL!"

The Papal troops are discouraged, and are retiring. They offer no resistance, but commit acts of ferocity on their passage.

A state of siege has been proclaimed at Fano, Sinigaglia and Pesaro.

Five thousand Austrian mercenaries in the Papal service have arrived at Sinigaglia.

The Sardinian Consul has been obliged to leave Ancona.

PARIS, Monday evening.

The *Patrie* publishes a telegram from Turin, stating that, on the supposition that Piedmont would decide upon sending a Sardinian *corps d'armée* into the Papal States, the different Powers have addressed energetic representations to Sardinia, declaring that the Pontifical Government has afforded Piedmont no pretext for this rupture.

"It is not known," says the *Patrie*, "whether this attitude of the Powers has modified the resolution of the Sardinian Government. Up to the latest dates, however, no Sardinian troops had crossed the Roman frontier. Some isolated bands not belonging to the regular army had alone entered the States of the Church."

The same journal adds: "A state of siege has been proclaimed at Ancona. The King of Naples is still at Gaeta, and it was reported that he would shortly embark for Spain."

The Siege of Gaeta.

A communication from Gaeta, dated the 12th ult., and published in a French paper, furnishes some details of interest :

"The Neapolitan troops still possessed out of the town the different positions of the Monte Secco. As to Gaeta itself, it was described as stronger than ever. The front of the attack on the land side does not exceed 760 metres in extent. It is defended by works cut in the rock, and armed with three rows of faced batteries, one of which has rifled cannon. These batteries together mount about 300 guns, and their line of fire converges on the points from which the attack must necessarily be made. The ditch at the foot of the escarpment is cut in the rock, and the bottom of the escarpment itself is completely covered. The other fortified points are protected by masses of rock, which render them unapproachable. The ground in front of the place of attack is so rocky, that any approach must be most difficult, and occupy a considerable time. Independently of those defences, Gaeta possesses a certain number of works established on the heights, among which may be mentioned the Castle, the Tower of Saint Francis, and the Monte Orlando, a strong fort which commands both the land side and the sea. As to the port, it is defended by considerable works, which would cause great damage to vessels of war built of wood. In the situation in which Gaeta now is, and with the sea-side remaining free in consequence of the non-recognition of the blockade by the European powers, it may, the letter states, with a garrison of from 6,000 to 7,000 men, with supplies of all kinds, defend itself for an almost indefinite period. The struggle will be confined on both sides to a combat of artillery. The besiegers may establish mortar batteries and bombard the place ; but that means will only occasion the destruction of the churches, public buildings and private houses, but will not make the defenders of it surrender, for the batteries and forts are all bomb-proof. The King had got one wing of his palace put into strong defence, and to it retired with his family."

The New York Times

Published: December 7, 1860

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B

ITALIAN AFFAIRS.

BOMBARDMENT OF GAETA.

LETTER FROM NAPOLEON TO FRANCIS II.

GAETA, Tuesday, Dec. 18.

An enormous quantity of shot and shell was thrown into Gaeta yesterday by the Sardinians. Some fell into the garden of the palace, where the King and Queen were dining with the Ambassador. The bombardment has since slackened. The damage in the town is not considerable. The King has received a letter from the Emperor NAPOLEON, who expresses sympathy for the King, but tells him he has carried on the siege long enough for his honor. The King, in reply, thanked the Emperor, but added that he considered it his duty to persist in the defence.

DIPLOMATIC RUMORS.

The generally uncertain and unsatisfactory tone of the French Press leads me to attribute more importance than I should otherwise have done to the following letter, which the *Courrier du Dimanche* publishes at the head of its leading column :

LONDON, Dec. 20, 1860.

Again a change—and this time a very marked one—in the attitude of the Powers with respect to the young King of Naples. The Emperor NAPOLEON has once more allowed himself to be moved by the misfortunes of FRANCIS II., and Russia and Prussia, escorted by the German Powers, have, within the last three days, interested themselves more warmly than ever in the destinies of the Neapolitan Bourbons. The French fleet remains, and will remain to protect Gaeta, at least until further orders. Russia is most especially active in this diplomatic movement. She hopes not only to protect FRANCIS II. for the moment, but to secure his future restoration to his throne. M. DE BRUNOW, at London, and no doubt M. DE KISSELEFF at Paris, argue that if, on the one hand, the young king can be kept at Gaeta for a month or two longer; and if, on the other, the hopes of the Italian revolutionists to get up a war in the Spring can be cut from under them, FRANCIS II. will recover his crown. The Cabinet of St. Petersburg is, therefore, most attentively watching every movement of the Emperor NAPOLEON.

The New York Times

Published: January 9, 1861

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C

Matters in Italy.

PROGRESS OF THE SIEGE OF GAETA.

Correspondence of the Paris Constitutionnel.

MOLA DI GAETA, Monday, Jan. 28, 1861.

I take advantage of a few moments on shore at Mola to send you some details respecting the siege. On the night of the 21st, about 10 o'clock, an experiment was made with the electric light, from Gen. Cicaldini's residence, to throw a light upon Gaeta, so as to enable the artillerymen to point their guns with precision. On the 22d, at 8 A. M., while 4,000 men were working at the parallels, the fortress opened a terrible fire with 200 guns at once. Our camp immediately replied to it, and the squadron at the same time received orders to manoeuvre. At 9 A. M. the Admiral gave the signal for departure, and ordered the Commander of the frigate *Garibaldi* to lead the attack. At 10 A. M. the *Garibaldi* was in full way on the fortress. At 11 she opened fire against the eastern batteries with a view to silence them, and at the same time to throw shells into the fortress. In this she succeeded. The other vessels in the squadron soon joined to the attack. At 5 o'clock in the afternoon the admiral ordered the firing to cease, to give rest to the crew. During the night all the vessels remained in front of Gaeta; the gunboats alone continued the attack. On the 23d the Admiral, after expressing his thanks to the commander of the *Garibaldi*, left for Mola, only leaving the *Garibaldi*, a steam frigate, and two gunboats to cruise before Gaeta. In the space of six hours our frigate sent in 971 projectiles. Five shells from the fortress struck us, but did little damage. The steam-frigate *Costituzione* had two men killed and three wounded. One of the gunboats suffered a similar loss. The frigate *Maria Adelaide* lost one of her band, and had three men wounded.

In the camp the explosion of a powder magazine caused the death of a captain and 22 men. The steamer *Etna*, which FRANCIS II. brought with him when he left Naples, was sunk in the port with 30 men on board, who all perished. The attack caused considerable damage to the fortress. It is suspected that great discouragement prevails in the garrison; as 132 men deserted during the night of the 23d. On the 24th we continued cruising off the fortress, while the attack was continued on the land side. During the day one of the gunboats stopped a schooner, the master of which declared there were two schooners at Terracina laden with provisions for Gaeta. On the 25th a large Spanish frigate was signalled. Our frigate immediately stopped her advance. Our frigate asked permission to enter Gaeta, on the plea that he had dispatches to hand to the Spanish and Austrian ~~ambassadors~~ Gen. Cicaldini and Admiral PERSANO.

requested him to withdraw, which he did before the law of blockade. In the night we again opened fire from the sea, but only with the gunboats.

On the 26th, at 8½ A. M., one of the gunboats stopped a schooner laden with grain, on her way to Gaeta. At the same time the frigate *Costituzione* prevented a French vessel from entering the port. The French captain was ignorant of the blockade, and immediately withdrew, accompanied for some distance by the frigate. On the 27th we signaled a French ship, and immediately joined her. The captain was the bearer of dispatches. Our commander having courteously asked him to see the Admiral, the French captain immediately proceeded to Mola, escorted by a gunboat. The firing continues, but is slack. The blockade is very strict. We are to have a grand attack in a few days."

FAREWELL ADDRESS OF GEN. SIRTORI.

The following is the final order of the day from Gen. SIRTORI, as Commander-in-Chief of the Garibaldian troops lately under his command:

OFFICERS AND SOLDIERS OF THE SOUTHERN ARMY: At the last hour of the command, confided to me by GARIBALDI and the King, permit me to speak to you frankly. In the crisis which we have had to surmount your honor was exposed to a great trial by many who were not worthy of being in your ranks. I watched over your honor as a mother watches over the honor of her daughter in danger. Thanks to that love of country which inspires most among you, the honor of the Southern Army is safe; love of country and honor makes heroes. For you, soldiers of your country and of liberty, you must be either heroes or not. Soldiers of Catanzaro, of Palermo, of Melazzo, of Reggio, and of Volturro, look to the future. Great battles, and much more difficult than those you have won, await you. Prepare yourselves by perfecting and strengthening yourselves in the discipline and the virtues of the soldier, not to destroy but to build up the edifice of your country. Henceforth be on your guard not to admit into your ranks any one who is not worthy of taking a part in the great work which will form the glory of this generation.

Soldiers, the work to be completed is extremely arduous. Whether it be necessary to wait for its accomplishment one or ten years, learn to wait, supporting your patience with faith and love, with self-denial and resolution, which are the virtues of those who bravely fight for justice.

G. SIRTORI.

NAPLES, Jan. 30.

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Italian Affairs.

THE "KING OF ITALY."

The following *emposé des motifs* was read by Count CAVOUR, in a sitting of the Italian Senate, relative to the project of giving the title of King of Italy to VICTOR EMANUEL:

MESSIEURS SENATEURS: The marvelous events of the last two years have, through a series of unexpected successes, assembled in one state almost all the scattered members of the nation. To Principalities so different from one another, and often mutually hostile through divergence of views and political councils, has at length succeeded unity of government on the solid basis of the national monarchy. The Kingdom of Italy is now a fact. This fact we must affirm before the Italian people and Europe. By the order of His Majesty and upon the advice of the Council of Ministers, I have the honor, then, to present to the Senate measures by which the King, our august sovereign, takes for himself and his successors the title of the King of Italy. Faithful interpreter of the national will, already manifested in a thousand ways, Parliament, on the solemn day of the royal sitting, with the enthusiasm of gratitude and affection, saluted VICTOR EMANUEL as the second King of Italy. The Senate will be happy to be first to give a prompt sanction to the wishes of every Italian, and to salute with a new title the noble dynasty, born in Italy, illustrious by eight centuries of glory and virtue, for which has been reserved by Divine Providence the honor of avenging misfortunes, closing wounds, and terminating the era of Italian divisions. By your vote, gentlemen, you will put an end to the recollections of provincial jealousies, and you will write the first page of a new national history."

GENERAL CIALDINI AT GAETA.

The following is the order of the day published by Gen. CIALDINI at Gaeta, and already mentioned by telegraph:

MOLA DI GAETA, Feb. 17.

SOLDIERS: Gaeta has fallen! the Italian flag and the victorious cross of Savoy are waving upon the top of the Orlando tower. What I foretold on the 10th of January you accomplished on the 13th of this month. He who leads soldiers like you can safely become a prophet of victory. In ninety days you have subdued a fortress celebrated by numerous sieges, and become still stronger by the addition of new works of defence; a fortress which, at the beginning of this century, resisted for nearly four months, the first soldiers of Europe. History will tell the exertions you made, the fatigues you went through; your constancy, abnegation, and valor. History will tell the gigantic work accomplished by you in so short a time. The King and the country applaud your triumph; the King and the country thank you.

Soldiers! We have fought against Italians. It was a sad but necessary duty. I cannot therefore invite you to joyful demonstrations—to the insulting merriment of the conqueror. I think it wiser, both of you and me, to unite you to-day in the Isthmus, under the walls of Gaeta, where a funeral mass will be said. There we shall pray for those gallant soldiers who, during this memorable siege, have fallen, both among our ranks and upon the enemy's bastions. Death covers with a sad veil human wrath, and the dead are all equal before the eyes of generous men. Our anger should not live beyond the fight; the soldier of VICTOR EMANUEL fights and pardons.

CIALDINI.

PART TWO



TERRA DI LAVORO

INTRODUCTION

The Terra di Lavoro, the "Land of Work," was one of the original Imperial provinces created by Federico I. It incorporated the Campania, Principata Citerior & Ulteriore, Napoli, much of southern Lazio, the Isola di Liri, Sora, Aquino, the Ponziene Islands as well as the Abruzzi regions of Cassina, Frusinate, Forma, plus Itri and Gaeta. The Terra was declared an Imperial Province in the Kingdom of Sicily around 1270 and continued as a Royal Province in both the Kingdom of Sicily and the Kingdom of Naples before it became a Department of the Kingdom of the Two Sicilies between 1815 and 1861. After unification it was again a Royal Province, of the Kingdom of Italy. The provincial capital was Caserta for a little more than the last hundred years. Before 1818, the capital was Capua. After 6 1/2 centuries, the Terra had grown unwieldy and, in 1927, it ceased to exist. Almost two decades would pass before this vast territory was parceled out. The major offspring were the Provinces of Napoli and Caserta, the latter not being formed until 1945. The Provinces of *il Sannio*, the Benevento, Campobasso and Iseemia, also came from the Terra as did the regions of Latino, Frozzone and Nola.

This section deals with the reigning nobility of the Terra di Lavoro. One family has been the most prominent by far, that of the *Gaetani dell'Aquila d'Aragona*. When I visited Piedimonte d'Alife in 1995 I was able to tour of the *Palazzo Ducale di Gaetani*, owned by the three *Principessas di Alife* then living in Rome. I could not help but notice the respect that was displayed when talking of the three *Principessas*. Conversations with my "cousins" recalled marriages and other special events that had transpired within those palace walls; their joyful memories spoke of a relationship with their one-time overlords as being one of mutual respect and honor.

18: EARLIEST HISTORY

Cumaeans from Euboea in Greece established several colonies over today's province of Napoli in the 8th century B.C.E. among the Opici (Osci), Ausoni and Aurunci tribes already in residence. Two centuries later the Etruscans established a federation of twelve towns around Capua. The Etruscans defeated the Greeks in two major battles between 524 and 474 B.C.E. The neighboring Samnites conquered both the Greeks and the Etruscans later in the same century.



SANNIO PENTRO

In chapter one, the history of the five tribes that are integral to know the history of Samnium were told. In this section, the same time period and people are involved, but involving a smaller geographic unit – the state versus the nation. In the 5th century B.C.E. a group of the Sannita people separated from the main body and settled the “matese,” or plateau, area and established the *Sannio Pentro*, 4 defensive centers:

Boviano, Isernia, Telesia and Alife. Telesio and Alife are within the confines of Campania, Isernia lies to the north of today's Campania in the province of the same name in the Molise region, with Boviano farther north. It is not clear if the Boviano of the Sannio Pentro is the same as Bovianum, the religious center for the federated tribes of Samnium and the Pentri's tribe religious center or not. The earliest Italic peoples in the lands of our ancestors are called the Campanians by some, Osco-sannita's by others. Campania is bordered by Lazio to the north-west, Molise to the north, Puglia to the north-east, Basilicata to the east, and the Tyrrhenian Sea to the west. The Sannio Pentro successfully defended the Campania against Roman incursions during the Sannitic Wars.

The separate quality found in the Caserta area is found in the confirmation of Alife as a *praefectura sine suffragio* until the second Punic War of 218 - 216 B.C.E. In 369 C.E. Alife was devastated by a major earthquake centered on Benevento. The city was rebuilt and prospered. A bishopric was initially established in Alife during the 5th century C.E. It disappeared the following century and was reinstated at the end of the first millennium.

Campania felix or “lucky countryland,” as the Caserta-Alife area was called by the Romans, became a Roman colony. Alife, the *Alliphae* of the Romans, achieved municipality status within the empire and flourished under the rule of the families of the *Ponzi*, the *Apulei* and the *Glabrioni Acyls*. They constructed magnificent temples, aqueducts, mausoleums, the amphitheater, “criptoportici” and aristocratic villas.

The life of the Sannio Pentro lives on in the designation of the Provinces of Benevento, Campobasso and Isernia as *il Sannio*.

19: DETAIL

ARECHI II, PRINCIPE DI BENEVENTO

Many from the time of the Lombard Kingdom retained their power in the south and the Campania region continued to be under their rule, often calling themselves Princes of the Lombards. In 774 the Lombard Kingdom fell to Charlemagne, the new Frankish King of the Lombards, and Arechi seized the opportunity and declared Benevento to be a Principality under his rule. He was already southern Italy's most powerful ruler and this may be why Charlemagne steered clear of the Benevento. ARECHI II, PRINCIPE DI BENEVENTO, was repudiating Charlemagne by identifying himself as separate from the Lombards, therefore not under the rule of the King of the Lombards. Arechi went so far as to enact legislation for his domains, a right reserved for Kings only.

In the latter half of the 10th century Pandulf, Principe di Benevento, divided the Principality into three: Capua, Benevento & Salerno. An odd decision as Pandulf only had two sons: Landulf IV received Capua & Benevento while Pandulf II received Salerno. Alife was within the Duchy of Capua, which was ruled by the Salerno branch of the Lombards after the break of Capua from Benevento. The Duke of the now-smaller Benevento, with help from the Saraceni, attacked the Duchy of Capua and the town of Alife was sacked.

The *profughi*, or refugees, the *Alifani*, fled to the foothills north of the city and populated the towns of Piedimonte d'Alife, Castello d'Alife; Prata, Pratella, San Potito and Gioia.

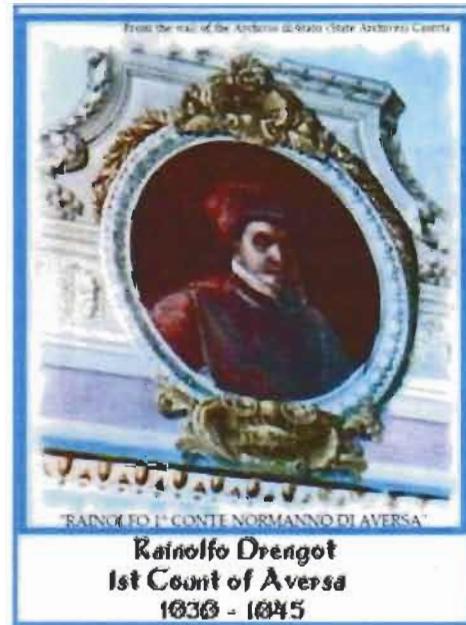
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CONTI SOVRANI DI AVERSO: 1030 - 1156

As you may recall from the first section, Sergius VI, Duke of Naples, granted the former Byzantine stronghold of Aversa as a fief to RAINULF (RAINOLFO) DRENGOT, 1^o Conte d'Aversa, in 1030. The 2^o conte was his nephew ASCLETTINO, son of his younger brother of the same name, and was known as "*il conte Giovane*." The Church established a diocese in Aversa in 1053.

RAINOLFO declared himself to be Principe di Aversa in 1038 but that title was not afforded any recognition and it was superceded by the 1059 creation of the Principate di Capua that included the Aversan territory. The DRENGOT'S that have come down through the centuries as the earliest counts of Aversa have done so as members of the DRENGOT-QUARREL or just QUARREL family. It has not been discovered if this usage was current during the time they were sovereigns or an invention of a later date, or, for that matter, if the appellation is unique among the Aversa/Capua branch of that family. The name QUARREL apparently has something to do with either the area or the castle in Normandy that was the seat of the family.

From its formation in 1030 through 1137, there were a dozen counts, a baker's dozen if you include the counts that don't count, i.e., usurpers. All of the dozen counts that count, save one, were from the DRENGOT family. In 1046 Guaimaro, Principe di Salerno created RODOLFO CAPPELLO, son of Oddone Cappello, 3^o Conti di Aversa with questionable authority to do so. The 4^o Conte, RAINOLFO II QUARRELL, has been a problem to accurately



place within the known family structure; he does not appear to be a son or grandson of any of the original five DRENGOT brothers. It has been assumed that he was a cousin from an unidentified branch that accompanied the five brothers from France. He has always been called "TRINCANOTE" which may be the key to unlock the exact relationship to the rest of the DRENGOT clan. The records indicate that, with the death of RAINOLFO II in 1048, title fell to ERMANNO QUARREL (died 1049), the minor son of TRINCANOTE. GUGLIELMO BELLABOCCA TANCREDI (died 1048) is mentioned as a usurping conte at this time; he was the first regent for ERMANNO. GUGLIELMO soon died and was followed by ERMANNO's next regent, RICCARDO I, after ERMANNO disappeared without a trace. RICCARDO had arrived in 1046 with 40 knights and entered the service of Umberto d'AltaVilla. He was initially named as heir to TRINCANOTE but was subsequently imprisoned at TRINCANOTE's instigation by Drogo d'AltaVilla until TRINCANOTE's death when the need arose for a regent for the young conte ERMANNO. This same RICCARDO was made Principe di Capua when it was elevated to that status in August 1059 and each DRENGOT followed in line with this title. His wife Fressenda was daughter of Tancred d'AltaVilla. Their son, GIORDANO I was duca di Gaeta from 1052 to 1063 followed by a brief co-rule with his father from May through August 1063 after which time the Capuan title passed out of the family. RICCARDO II's rule may have been interrupted in the 1190s by a period of rule under Lando IV, Principe di Capua.

<u>Years of Rule #</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Principe di Capua</u>	
1030 – 1045: 1°	RAINOLFO QUARREL DRENGOT		
1045 – 1046: 2°	ASCLETTINO QUARREL DRENGOT		
1046 – 1047: 3°	RODOLFO CAPPELLO (candidate of Guaimario IV di Salerno)		
1047 – 1048: 4°	RAINOLFO II QUARREL		
1048 – 1049: 5°	ERMANNO QUARREL, son of 4°		
1048 – 1048: -	GUGLIELMO TANCREDI		
1049 – 1078: 6°	RICCARDO I QUARREL, brother of 2°	1°	
1078 – 1090: 7°	GIORDANO I QUARREL, son of 6°	2°	co-ruled w/father since 1058
1090 – 1106: 8°	RICCARDO II DRENGOT, son of 7°	3°	co-ruled w/father since 1080
1106 – 1120: 9°	ROBERTO I DRENGOT, brother of 8°	4°	
1120 – 1120: 10°	RICCARDO III DRENGOT, son of 9°	5°	
1120 – 1127: 11°	GIORDANO II DRENGOT, brother of 9°	6°	
1127 – 1137: 12°	ROBERTO II DRENGOT, son of 11°	7°	

RICCARDO III probably holds a record for the shortest reign and the most boring one. First, for the shortest: he was associated with his father as Principe di Capua on 27 May 1120. His father passed away seven days later at which time RICCARDO III became the sole ruler, for two days. He died on 5 June and it was two months before GIORDANO received the title. And for the most boring: he was conferred the title of conte di Aversa on 3 August 1120 and held it for just two days – brief, yes – but more importantly, dull – he had been dead for almost two months already! The DRENGOT'S were supplanted by another Norman family, de Hauteville or, in Italian, D'ALTAVILLA in 1137 for almost two decades before the DRENGOT restoration.

<u>Yrs of Rule Aversa</u>	<u>Name</u>
1137 – 1144: 13	ANFUSO D'ALTAVILLA
1144 – 1155: 14	GUGLIELMO I D'ALTAVILLA, brother of ANFUSO, king of Sicily 1154 - 66
1155 – 1156: 15	ROBERTO II DRENGOT (restored)

21: THE NORMAN COUNTS OF ALIFE

The present-day Italian province of Campania covers the territory on the west coast of the Italian peninsula, to the north and south of the city of Naples. Numerous Norman *counties* have been identified with this area: Acerra, Airola, **Alife**, Avellino, **Aversa**, Buonalbergo, Fondi, Gesualdo, Policastro, Sanseverino, and Sorrento. In addition, the towns of Amalfi, Benevento, Capua, Gaeta, Napoli, and Salerno were the bases of Lombard *principalities* before the arrival of the Normans in southern Italy. Other medieval *counties* identified in the area were Ariano, Atella, Cajazzo, Calvi, Capri, Carinola, **Caserta**, Castel Laurino, Castro Argento, Conza, Cuma, Greci, Ischia, Maranola, Massa Lubrense, Nocera, Nola, Pontecorvo, Pozzuoli, Rota, Sant'Agata, Sarno, Sessa, Somma Vesuviana, Suessola, Sujo, Teano, Telese, Traetto, and Volturara, but little information has so far emerged from the sources consulted concerning their counts.

As will be explained later, the title of count and duke originally referred to a location rather than status: a count's fief was rural while a duke's was urban. This throws a curve-ball into any attempt to list the nobility of any particular area such as Alife. As a rural area, it was governed by counts originally. As it became somewhat urbanized, the title changed to dukes. But then the Emperor invaded and a new schema was instituted in which there was a hierarchy established which linked a title to not only the location, rural versus urban, but to other factors such as the size and strategic importance of the fief. This had the confusing result of Alife being a county, then a duchy, and then being, again, a county.

In 965 C.E. Alife became an independent and hereditary province, under the rule of the Conti and Contesses di Alife. The 2° *conte di Alife* was ROBERTO who had that title by 1115 along with being the *conte di Airola e Cajazzo*. Alife with its Northern Campanian neighbors operated almost independently from Capua.

Years of Rule	Alife	Name
1108 – c1114	1°	RAINULF I DRENGOT
c1114 – c1128	2°	ROBERTO DRENGOT: also conte di Cajazzo and di Airola.
c1128 – 1139	3°	RAINULF II DRENGOT: married Matilda d'AltaVilla, sister of Ruggero II d'AltaVilla, King of Sicily; also conte di Avellino.
1139 – ??	4°	MAUGER D'ALTAVILLA: named as Conte di Alife by Falcandus.

Of these four, it seems RAINULF II had the most active reign. In 1132 construction of the cathedral at Alife started. In 1135, Ruggero II d'Altavilla, King of Sicily, captured and sacked Alife. In retaliation, RAINULF II met the forces of the king on 30 October 1137 at the Battle of Rignano. RAINULF, recently appointed as Duc di Apulia by Emperor Lothair III, was supported by 800 of Lothair's knights plus an equal number of his own. Ruggero II held over-all command of the Norman army with his son, Ruggero III (who also claimed the title of Duc di Apulia), as his subordinate. The Normans were also supported by Sergius VII, Duc di Napoli. The opening stages of the battle favored the Sicilian army as Ruggero III successfully pushed RAINULF's troops back. The follow-up charge, however, led by Ruggero II, faltered and was repulsed. The king could not reform his army and was forced into a full retreat. Unlike Ruggero II and Ruggero III, Sergius VII was unable to flee and fell in the battle. He died without an heir and the duchy of Naples was annexed by the kingdom of Sicily. As a result of the battle, the victor RAINULF was left in control of Apulia while the loser annexed the duchy of Naples! The hoped-for revolt of the cities of Campania against the king did not materialize, leaving the crown firmly on Ruggero II. Less than a year later Alife is attacked by Ruggero II again. It suffers heavy damage from which it takes centuries to recover. The king manages to establish a royal garrison effectively ending

Alife's *de facto* independence. RAINULF II dies on 30 April 1139 at Troia and is buried in the cathedral there. Acting the part of spoiled brat/sore loser Ruggero II exhumes his body and throws it in a ditch. Ruggero later has regrets, finds the ditch, and reburies RAINULF honorably.

Thirty years of agitation by the would-be conti and contesses led to the 1169 reinstatement of independence. RICCARDO GAETANI, Conte di Fondi, became Conte di Alife in 1178. The GAETANI were replaced by the DRENGOT (QUARREL) Family the year after the unlawful election of Tancred as king in 1190 and coincided with the earliest appearances of Imperial troops under Henry VI. When EMPEROR ENRICO I, died in 1197, the DRENGOTS were replaced by the Swabian House of SCHWEINSPEUNT.

As for MAUGER, Hugo Falcandus in *The History of the Tyrants of Sicily*, states that it is not known when MAUGER died. A Mauger d'AltaVilla was a son of Tancred and conte di Capitanate who lived a century earlier and is a good candidate for being related to this latter MAUGER who was probably a son or grandson of the elder Mauger's brother Gofreddo. Since his time as conte commenced with the garrisoning of royal troops in the town, it is a safe assumption to state he was of the d'AltaVilla clan.

22: THE 13TH CENTURY DI FIANDRA CONTI DI CASERTA

???? – 1212: ROBERTO DI FIANDRA: Conte di Caserta when he died. Roberto married Adalagia von Schweispeunt, a relative of DIEPOLD, Duca di Alife.

1212 – 1266: RICCARDO DI FIANDRA: Son of Roberto; son-in-law of FEDERICO I; died 1266.

1266 – 1269: CORRADO DI FIANDRA: Riccardo's son by second wife Berardesca von Urslingen.

1269 – 1279: TOMMASO DI FIANDRA: Second son of Roberto and Adalagia; died in 1279.

GOFFREDO/ROFFREDO GAETANI was named conte di Caserta by CARLOS II, D'ANGIO in 1288. Some historians refer to him as the "1^o" Conte di Caserta, though DI FIANDRA family members were called "conte" from the start of the century. Giovanna dell'Aquila, daughter and heiress of Riccardo, conte di Fondi and Traetto, died in 1317 and GOFFREDO inherited that title. The 2^o conte, PIETRO GAETANI, sold Caserta to Diego, conte di Montorio in 1306.

23: DETAIL *CASTELLO DUCALE GAETANI D'ARAGONA*

Piedimonte d'Alife replaced a Greek village after the Normans had conquered southern Italy at the end of the first millennia. The early town was a cluster of homes below the fourth century *Chiesa di San Giovanni*. The 11th century Norman castle protected the pass to the Matese plateau to the north of the city. The age of the castle saved it from destruction or confiscation by FEDERICO I's law as it applied to castles built after 1185.

Piedimonte antica is one of the four small villages that made up the town. The original plus the three others, situated further down the slopes, grew during times of war, pestilence and earthquakes as the nearby *Alifani* would flee to



PIEDIMONTE ANTICA



the safety of the hills and many remained.

Il duce di Alife was often responsible for upkeep and garrisoning the castle however these duties were delegated to different families as a way to check the growth of power in a single family. In 1251, the castle in Piedimonte d'Alife was granted to TOMMASO II, Conte di Aquino, by the Pope Innocent IV. CONRAD IV, King of Germany, confirmed this transfer the following year. The duchy of Alife was conferred upon FEDERICO DI FIANDRA in 1269 where that family continued their rule until 1301.

1251 – 1288?: TOMMASO II DI AQUINO: Castellan of castle in Piedimonte d'Alife.

After a few centuries a second castle was built higher up the mountain, becoming the focal point for the town of Castello d'Alife. The old 11th century castle failed to meet the needs of security in the area which coincided nicely with two occurrences: first, in 1504, fire destroyed much of the structure and second, the Italian Renaissance. Both gave reason for reconstruction into the Palazzo Ducale, the edifice which remains within the GAETANI family to this day.

23B: DETAIL I'M A PRINCE – YOU'RE JUST A DUKE. WHAT'S ALL THE FUSS ABOUT?

Turns out the answer to that question is: A whole heckuva lot of people care! And care to the point of friend, foe or feud; do's, don'ts and duels; aggression, suppression and depression; and even murder! Imagine leading a meeting attended by a thousand vain and belligerent men who can't agree on the important things like who gets to walk through the door first.

So let's see what the fuss was (and is) all about.

Titles for males

1. **Lord** (they aren't always crucified though I'm sure many peasants would be glad to have nailed theirs to a cross!)
2. A **County or Countship** has its **Count**.
3. A **Marquisates or March** has its **Marquis**.
4. A **Duchy or Dukedom** has its **Duke**.
5. A **Principality** has its **Prince**.
6. A **Kingdom** has its **King**.
7. An **Empire** has its **Emperor**.

and their female counterparts

Lady (as in "my Lady")
Countess
Marchioness
Duchess
Princess (don't we all know at least one?)
Queen
Empress

But it wasn't always this way – way back in the dim mists of antiquity there were Dukes and Counts – that's it, nothing more (outside of royalty that is). There were provinces and in these provinces you had (1) cities and (2) everything else. Counts governed the cities and Dukes governed everything else.

The hierarchy of importance (to someone) is basically the way I wrote it from low to

high. **Countships** and **Marches** are basically equivalent in size, but not location. A **March** is a border county and, being such, is a more dangerous place to live and is given a higher rank accordingly.

Since this is a history of southern **Italy**, using the Italian forms of the titles seems, well, if not appropriate, then at least kinda cool in a showing-off manner. The Italian forms are:

1. **Signore** and **Signora** or **Patrizio** and **Patrizia** (informal)
2. **Conte** and **Contessa** holding a **Contea**, **Contado** or **Comitato**
3. **Marchese** or **Marchesa** have a **Marca**
4. **Duca** and **Duchessa** have a **Ducato**
5. **Principe** and **Principessa** have a **Principato**
6. **Re** and **Regina** have a **Regno**
7. **Imperatore** and **Imperatrice** have their **Impero**

One other point to make is that certain ranks of nobility when lumped together were called by another name. Just as when the boys are called sons and the girls called daughters; lump 'em together and the term used is brats! This began as a way to separate the upper from the lower nobility. Eventually the **BARONI** came about as a distinct entity with entrance requirements for membership (the most important being just how much could you do for the other members). The interesting twist to this story of "haves" and "have nots" is it was the "have nots" that were the members of the baronial class. The majority of feudatories were simply **SIGNORI** (from the French **seigneur**, a title introduced into Italy by the eleventh-century Normans), **VASSALI** (vassals) or **CAVALIERI** (knights). They came to be known collectively as the **BARONI**.

In **IL REGNO** it was not quite as simple as the **BARONI** and the **MONARCHY** or the **BARONI** *versus* the **MONARCHY** because the question of just who was the actual ruling monarch was the subject of heated discussions, even shouting matches And occasionally war (okay, maybe frequently is a more accurate description than occasionally).

PATRIZIO NAPOLETANO: The title comes from the description of the aristocracy of ancient Rome. A **PATRIZIO NAPOLETANO** lived in Naples (a Neapolitan Patrician) but their fiefdoms where elsewhere – Caserta or Alife for example. The rank was transmitted to male heirs in general; there are no feminine Patricians (that would be **Matricians** or **MATRIZIO**), but the daughter of a patrizio might be said to be **DEI PATRIZI GAETANTI** or "of the patrician Gaetani."

Titles often implied several other, "inferior" ones which can be hard to find. By way of example when the direct line of the princes of Bisignano became extinct in the 16th century, the dismembered, non-contiguous territories comprising this principality, numbered 41(!) including: 26 territories in Calabria: Bisignano, S. Marco, Cassano, Strongoli, Corigliano, Castrovillari, Acri, Altomonte, La Regina, Saracino, San Donato, Malvito, Luzzi, Rose, Ruggiano, Tarsia, Terranova, Casalnuovo, Trebisaccia, Morano, Mormanno, Abate Marco, Grisolia, Belvedere, Sanguinetto, and Bonifati e S. Agata; 12 in Basilicata; and 3 in Terra d'Otranto and each territory had its own title with the head going by the highest title, the Prince of Even though he was also a duke, he was never referred to as Duke of

Tonight's extra-credit question to keep you awake is:

If a female **Count** is a **Countess** and

a female **Duke** a **Duchess**,

why isn't a female **King** a **Kingess**?

**24: DETAIL DIEPOLD VII VON SCHWEINSPEUNT, MARKGRAF VON VOHBURG
1191 – 1220**



In the battle for supremacy between CONSTANCE, legally, Queen of the Two Sicilies and wife of EMPEROR HENRY VI and the usurper TANCRED of Sicily would cover the last decade of the 12th century and the first two decades of the 13th! GUGLIELMO II, King of the Two Sicilies had died in 1189 and left his crown to younger sister CONSTANCE. However, the King's half-brother TANCRED DI LECCE was illegally "elected" King in 1190 by the States General of Sicily. TANCRED found allies in the rulers of Montella, Acerra, Molise, Aversa, Teano, Naples, San Angelo, Castelnuovo, Pontecorvo, Fratte and several others. In 1191 the Emperor descended the peninsula arriving in Naples with two brothers in his service: Siegfried and DIEPOLD VON SCHWEINSPEUNT, sons of BERTHOLD II, Markgraf von Vohburg and ADELAIDE of Ballenstedt. DIEPOLD was made castellan at Rocca d'Arce and fought with the Imperial forces for the next 27 years. Despite the Emperor's victory before the decade was over, the unrest continued for many years, extending the length of time when DIEPOLD was a member of the knigdom's nobility.

Not much is to be found in available historical accounts of Italian history about this DIEPOLD, but the author has discovered much about him in records from Germany. A brief account is given here with a more elaborate genealogy to be found in the appendices. Descendant of kings of both England and Germany, the immediate ancestors of DIEPOLD VII were minor nobility centered in Bavaria. The Margraves of Vohburg and the Margraves of Cham, titles his parents and grandparents claimed, were successors to the Margrave of Nordgau, probably a senior and junior line. His parents held property in Vohburg, located about 45 miles southwest of Regensburg and the larger family had property in Cham, about 30 miles northeast of Regensburg. (See map in appendix) DIEPOLD VII is usually designated “VON SCHWEINSPEUNT” which may refer to where he lived. The small village of Schweinspoint is located 50 miles east of Vohburg, just north of Marxheim. In early records he is found as DIEPOLD VII, MARKGRAF VON VOHLBURG which was an honorary title. He may have been born in Vohburg and was living in Schweinspeunt before heading to Naples in the Emperor’s service. He is found infrequently as “il Suevi,” a reference to being from Swabia. This is more commonly applied to FREDERICK II, the Holy Roman Emperor that DIEPOLD’s life was intricately linked with. His cognomen is variously given as Diopold, Diopuld, Diopoldo and Diebold in the records.

There has been nothing definitive discovered about when he was born, but it can be

surmised that he was at least 30 years older than Frederick, who was born in 1194. In 1199 he was old enough to have a daughter of marriageable age (which, at that time, meant she was born around 1185 at the latest). Assuming a minimum age of 20 for DIEPOLD when his daughter was born, 1165 would be his latest year of birth. The total lack of information about his family, including his daughter’s name, before coming to Naples is unusual. The fact that he traveled to Naples in 1191 in the service of the Emperor and immediately was given a position of authority that grew to the point of being called the Emperor’s governor of the territory covering the whole of mainland Sicily by 1194 is indicative of one who has been attached to the Imperial court for some time. Later, around 1209, he marries again and fathers at least 4 children, which argues against being born much before 1155. Accepting these markers as factual, it would be a reasonable assumption to place his year of birth around 1160.

The Emperor may have confiscated the duchy of Alife from the D’ALTAVILLA family as early as 1191,



and gave it to DIEPOLD, though confirmation for that is lacking. RICCARDO DELL'AQUILA, Conte di Fondi had purchased the fiefs of Suessa (Sessa?) and Teano from the Emperor and, afraid to fight him, abandoned Fondi for the Campania. KING TANCRED granted the vacant fief to a member COTRONE family of Naples though it is doubtful there was any semblance of authority realized.

In 1192 RICCARDO D'AQUINO, lord of Montella and TANCRED'S ally, was captured by DIEPOLD, imprisoned in the fortress at Capua and condemned to death. RICCARDO was dragged through the streets of Capua and hung by the feet, so that his agony was long and painful. The fief of Montella was seized and given to DIEPOLD VON SCHWEINSPEUNT. Towards 1220 the fief of Montella was returned to the AQUINO, in the person of TOMMASO I.

CONTI GUGLIELMO DI CASERTA, an Imperial ally, summoned DIEPOLD in late 1192 and together, they captured Capua and took Aversa and Caserta, the latter two being retaken by TANCRED in 1193. TANCRED'S eldest son ROGGERIO, who had been earlier crowned King of Sicily died in December 1193 and TANCRED'S second son was crowned GUGLIELMO III, King of Sicily. TANCRED died in February 1194. The Emperor subdued Palermo on 20 November 1194 and HENRY was crowned King of Sicily on Christmas Day, his wife being near Ancona and about to give birth. The deposed KING GUGLIELMO III was imprisoned, with his family, in Germany. It would appear to be a victory for the last legitimate D'ALTAVILLA king whose provisions in his will were fulfilled. But TANCRED was only the figure-head around which some of the Barons flocked; they would continue to oppose the claims of CONSTANCE, or more correctly, the aims set by the German Emperor, for many years.

The anti-Imperialist stance championed by TANCRED was severely damaged, not mortally wounded, by his death and in 1194 the Emperor, with help from Conte di Fondi, was victorious in battles against Naples and Salerno; Apulia and Sicily declared allegiance to Emperor and avoided the damages of war. DIEPOLD created his power base in the Campania over the next years and acted as the Emperor's governor there. He was designated *justiciar* over Terra di Lavoro in 1195 and created Conte di Acerra by the Emperor after imprisoning RICCARDO, the former Conte, in 1197. Events following the deaths of Emperor and Empress were discussed in part one. Markward von



Annweiler was a key player in the young king's life and it appears that he may have been married to DIEPOLD's sister Hadwig whose husband's name is given as Markward von Arnsburg und Heideck. Annweiler entrusted his holdings of Pontecorvo, Interamna, Sant'Angelo and Castronuovo to his possible brother-in-law DIEPOLD while he was absent on Imperial business. GUGLIELMO, Conte di Caserta imprisoned DIEPOLD and kept him in chains for unknown reasons and DIEPOLD only gained his freedom after GUGLIELMO's death. Meanwhile the young son of HENRY VI, was crowned FEDERICO I, KING OF SICILY in 1198. That same year, in Germany, GUGLIELMO III, the deposed King of Sicily, died leaving his sister Maria as heir. She married GUALTIERO DE CANDIA, conte di Brionne in 1200.

The new Conte di Caserta, also GUGLIELMO, promised freedom for DIEPOLD in exchange for his daughter's hand in marriage in 1199. DIEPOLD agrees and negotiates two more marriage alliances the same year: his son marries a daughter of PIETRO, CONTE DI CELANO and his brother SIEGFRIED marries a daughter of RICCARDO DELL'AQUILA, CONTE DI FONDI.

The new century has a new challenger for DIEPOLD: WALTER III OF BRIENNE the Principe di Taranto, Duca di Apulia, Conte di Lecce and brother-in-law of the dead GUGLIELMO III (Maria's husband GUALTIERO DE CANDIA is WALTER III). He is crowned King of Sicily in 1201 in opposition to the reigning KING FEDERICO I. WALTER is at first victorious over DIEPOLD at Capua in June 1201 and Canne in Apulia in October 1202 during which Annweiler and DIEPOLD's brother Siegfried is killed. In late 1202, probably November, DIEPOLD shuts himself up in the fortress of Sant'Agata. The castellan at Sant'Agata changed alliances and held DIEPOLD prisoner during the early part of 1203 but DIEPOLD manages to escape. WALTER III sets DIEPOLD fleeing after defending his captured fortress of Terracina in Salerno in 1204. In June 1205 WALTER is mortally wounded and dies at Sarno.

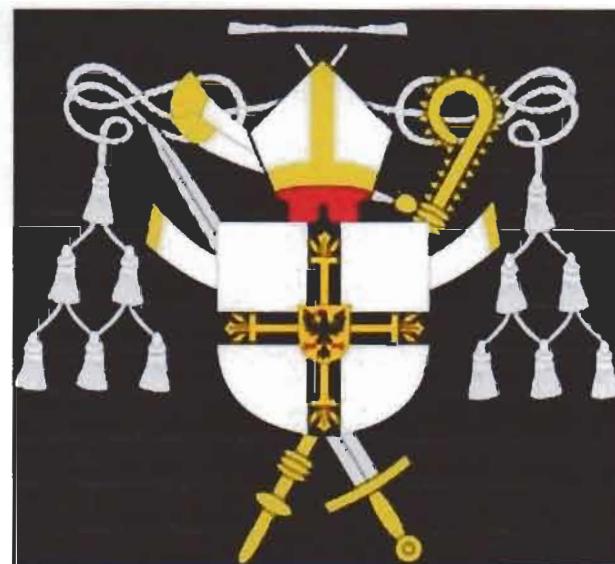
Elsewhere Alife was set fire by the Conte di Celano, his daughter's father-in-law, after he failed to take the citadel there. DIEPOLD returned and subdued Salerno where he had continued to hold the upper citadel. Summoned to Rome in 1206, POPE INNOCENT III lifts the banns of excommunication and allows DIEPOLD to return to Salerno. He sails to Palermo in late 1206 to wrest control of the royal palace and the king from Guglielmo di Capporone. Walter of Palearia (Gualtiero da Pagliara), Chancellor of Sicily, becomes Regent in November and is successful in his seige of the royal palace, capturing DIEPOLD. DIEPOLD escapes the same night and sails to Salerno. DIEPOLD enters into open war with the Regent and inflicts a major defeat on the Regent's Neapolitan supporters in battle during May 1207.

DIEPOLD continues Imperialist goals and is made Duca di Spoleto by the Emperor-elect (and Frederick's opponent to be Holy Roman Emperor) OTTO IV in February 1209, less than 2 months after the king reached his majority. FEDERICO, unaware of where DIEPOLD's allegiance lies, makes him Lord Chief Justice of Apulia. DIEPOLD becomes the head of a conspiracy of Apulian Barons to do away with the king. DIEPOLD, sounding like a traitor, is actually just fulfilling his duties as a functionary of the Empire when he convinces OTTO to invade Sicily which he does. By September 1211, almost the whole of mainland Sicily has declared for the Emperor. Then, on the brink of success and without giving explanation, OTTO quits his Sicilian campaign and hightails it back to Germany. The Pope, lately a supporter of OTTO, realized the danger of an Imperial Sicily and engineered the downfall of the Emperor – he is first excommunicated by the Church and then deposed by the German princes. DIEPOLD's allegiance to the Empire was not personal: he had supported EMPEROR HENRY VI, and his son who was expected to be crowned the next Emperor. When it became obvious that the coronation would not happen, DIEPOLD turned to his next overlord, OTTO IV. With the coronation of FREDERICK II

as Holy Roman Emperor, one would expect DIEPOLD to follow the same behavior. Not having expectations is wise though and, in this instance, any expectations of loyalty and fealty were not to be realized by the new Emperor. DIEPOLD has a ‘falling out,’ with no forthcoming elaboration from KING FEDERICO, and is arrested by his own son-in-law Giacobbe di San Severino. DIEPOLD is sent to Germany where he remains captive as a guarantee the loyalty of the castles of Cajazza and Alife. The castles were held for DIEPOLD by one of his brothers and, in the first half of 1220, were surrendered to FEDERICO, thus securing DIEPOLD’S release from his German prison. The lack of details for the last 8 years of DIEPOLD Italian odyssey is hinted at by one small biographical note found in a single source. That note, translated from Italian, gives the impression that

HONORIUS III, papal vicar since 1216, was “lording over” the Campania and two years after DIEPOLD was sent packing to Germany, the king was able to “liberate” the lands of Alife, Caiazzo and Acerra and use the revenues generated to thwart the Pope’s designs on the kingdom.

In this single statement we find that DIEPOLD’S unswerving support of the Imperium has indeed swerved, to the north, landing in the lap of the Holy See. DIEPOLD disappears in the fog of history and never again appears with certainty in any record though it is believed he joined the Order of the Teutonic Knights (officially the *Order of the Teutonic Knights of Saint Mary’s Hospital in Jerusalem*). If this is true then, perhaps, Diepolds allegiance had swerved again, back to the Emperor for it was only at the time of the king’s birth that the German Knights of Saint Mary bound themselves into the third spiritual order, taking its place alongside the Knights of Saint John (officially the *Sovereign Military Hospitaller Order of Saint John of Jerusalem of Rhodes and of Malta*; also known as *Knights Hospitaller, Order of Saint John, Knights of Rhodes, Knights of Malta, Most Venerable Order of Saint John of Jerusalem [British], Brandenburg Baltic of the Knights’ Order of the Hospital of Saint John in Jerusalem [German Protestant] and Chevaliers of Malta*) and the Knights Templar (officially the *Poor Knights of Christ and the Temple of Solomon*). Historians agree that he never set foot in the Kingdom of Sicily again.



Coat of Arms of the Teutonic Knights

25: 800 – 1000 C.E: The Hidden Legacy of Islamic Italy

We are accustomed to think of Sicily as being an integral part of Italy and, by default, Europe. This narrow perspective obscures the island's proximity to the northern coast of Africa, a distance of only some sixty miles. This is not accidental for it has always been in the interests of the European powers to foster this perception. First, the narrowing of the Mediterranean Sea at this location creates a gateway between the eastern and western parts of the sea much the same as the *Pillars of Hercules* creates one between the Atlantic Ocean and the Mediterranean. Control of this gateway provided for greater or lesser commerce and cultural exchange between the peoples of the two sections as well as those populations at a farther distance that were dependent of the sea lanes for imports and exports. Control also provided a measure of security against attacks by sea as well as being a source of revenue through the collection of tolls. Second, the island was an important source for the food supplies required by the various European powers to feed their people and their armies.

This Eurocentric view also served to minimize the importance of the Muslim culture on Sicily and Naples, but the whole of Europe. While the continent was blindly thrashing about in the ignorance of the Dark Ages, Islamic Sicily was making profound advances in the sciences, literature, architecture, agriculture and medicine much as it did when it dominated the Iberian Peninsula. Only through contact with the Muslim cultural advances was Europe pulled out of the quagmire of the Dark Ages. Almost every written translation of the early Greek and Roman works survive today only by virtue of their Arabic translations. The most highly regarded medical university in the known world was founded in Syracuse by Muslims. The tenth largest city in Europe during the 10th century was Palermo with a population of 300,000. By the 11th century the medical school in Salerno on the mainland had surpassed Syracuse as the leader. This transition was somewhat logical in progression – those that founded the school at Syracuse where schooled at Salerno.

Byzantine control of the island was deteriorating at the start of the 9th century as were the Greek Catapanates on the mainland. Eufemius was the Byzantine commander on the island. Apparently fearing retribution for a transgression against the Byzantine Emperor Michael II, he asked for assistance from the Aghlabid court of Emir Ziyadat Allah of Ifriqiya. In 827 Eufemius began paying a yearly tribute to the Emir in exchange for the clearing of the Byzantine armies from the island, signaling the beginning of a 75-year conquest. By 878 Byzantine Sicily was limited to a tiny strip of land on the east coast of the island centered on Taormina which held out until falling in 902. In 913, Aghlabid rule fell on the island, but the continuing Muslim control is called both a period of independence and one of Fatimid rule by historians. The lists of Fatimid governors is the same list given for the independent emirs of Sicily until 948 when Sicily was definitively a separate Arab Emirate under the Kalbi dynasty until 1072, excepting a 4-year rule of the Zirids from 1036 to 1040.

Only ten years after the initial Muslim presence in Sicily, their strength was great enough to provide military assistance to Andrew II, Duke of Naples who was being attacked by the Beneventan army for refusing to pay the customary tribute to the prince. The Muslim navy was pivotal in the routing of the Beneventans in 836 and 837. Neapolitan strength grew and the earlier Muslim assistance was repaid in 843 when Messina fell to the Muslims through the military aid from Naples. An Arab emirate was established on the peninsula with its capital at Bari in 847; Reggio Calabria fell to the Muslims in 901 and the siege of Cosenza in 902 faltered due to the untimely death of Emir Ibrahim II ibn Ahmad of Ifriqiya.

The Strait of Sicily lies between the southwestern tip of the island of Sicily and the ancient site of Carthage in Tunis. The Strait, slightly less than a hundred miles wide, separates the western and eastern portions of the Mediterranean Sea.

The island prospered under Muslim rule as large land holdings were broken up into smaller parcels, irrigation systems were installed or improved, and a wide variety of agricultural products were introduced, making Sicily very prosperous. These very same innovations made the Muslim Spain the most prosperous lands on the continent. On religious matters, Muslims were not interested in converting anyone as they knew that a person that voluntarily converted was doing so for spiritual reasons more than political ones and Christians were allowed to practice their religion freely. Religious toleration of this sort was a thousand years in the future for most of Christian Europe.

Muslim control on the mainland was never as complete or as effective as on the island. After sixty years, the Tunisian Aghlabid dynasty gave way to the Egyptian Shiite Fatamids in Bari and the Byzantine Emperor Constantine VII was forced into paying a tribute to the emir of Sicily for his holdings in mainland Calabria.

The appearance of the Normans on the horizon in 1038 brought the dawn of the end of Muslim domination. In 1060 the Emirs of Catania and Siracusa (Syracuse) requested military intervention from the Norman Robert Guiscard who captured Messina in 1061 and Palermo in 1072. Almost two decades would elapse before the last Muslim stronghold on the island at Noto fell along with the island of Malta opposite Noto on the southern tip of the island.

Defeat did not mean disappearance though; a hundred years later the majority of government officials were Muslim, most Christians spoke Arabic and Islamic mosques were plentiful as were Catholic Churches. The tolerant attitude of the Muslims had filtered down to the Christians raised on Sicily. Federico I Hohenstaufen was declared king of Sicily at the age of three in 1197 and spent his first decade of life on Sicily where he was schooled in Arabic ways and language. Federico I went on to become Frederick II, the greatest of the Holy Roman Emperors and the King of Jerusalem, yet maintained the Muslim ways of his youth. He was the target of Papal wrath on more than one occasion who declared Federico a heretic for, among other transgressions against the Church, maintaining a harem on the island he ruled until his death in 1250. Perhaps because of the Papal sanctions, Federico preferred his island to any place he ruled on the continent and spent the majority of his life there.

26: DUC D'AQUINO, LEONESSA, FIANDRA, D'AVELLA, JANVILLE, & MARZANO
1219 – 1259 **D'AQUINO**

Rodoaldo, a Lombard noble too, was the first Gastaldo, or governor, of the city of Aquino in the principality of Capua. From 1221 to 1259 they were the ruling family of Alife. The confiscated properties that came into DIEPOLD'S possession were distributed, some being returned to the family it was confiscated from as when the fief of Montella was returned to TOMASO I D'AQUINO, and others being conferred anew as when the duchy of Alife, confiscated from the QUARREL family, was granted to the House D'AQUINO. They retained the ducal title until 1259. TOMASO left for Syria in July 1227 and apparently the duchy went to his son ADENULFO D'AQUINO. All that is certain about this son was that he was alive in 1229, having survived the sacking of Piedimonte d'Alife by the Guelph army in 1228. Formerly a Hohenstaufen tool, this force was lately aligned with the Papacy. The ensuing 3 decades of rule are a mystery as concerns the ruler.

**1219 – 1227: TOMASO I D'AQUINO
1228 – 12??: ADENULFO D'AQUINO**

1259 – 1269

DELLA LEONESSA

During this time of war, the duchy may have come under the rule of the DELLA LEONESSA family as there are references to this occurring during the period of unrest between the Suevi, in reference to FEDERICO, and the “Angioini,” probably a reference to the Anjevin monarchy (D’ANGIO). Leonessa is a remote town of central Italy in the Umbrian mountains. An online listing of the Leonessa nobility makes no mention of any holding the title of duca di Alife during this, or any, period.



1269 – 1301

di FIANDRA

The change in national rule from Hohenstaufen to Angevin was mirrored locally when the DI FIANDRA family replaced the DELLA LEONESSA in the duchy of Alife in 1269. FEDERICO DI FIANDRA took the ducal title in that year. Piedimonte d’Alife received its’ town charter in conjunction with the ascension of the House of FIANDRA to the ducal title. They served as Dukes until 1301. Alife decayed and was mostly deserted for the next century which gives reason for the lack of clearly identified dukes during this period. The DI FIANDRA, conti di Caserta since the start of the century, lost that seat in 1279.

1269 – 1301?: FEDERICO DI FIANDRA

1301 – 1307

D’AVELLA

The D’AVELLA is supposed to have supplied Alife with a Duke between 1301 and 1307, but no confirmation has been found.

1307 – 1345

IANVILLE

This was followed by rule from the House of JANVILLE/IANVILLE until 1345. This house originated with GIOVANNI DE JOINVILLE, a Norman knight from a notable dynasty in the Champagne region of France. Giovanni, with his sons Goffredo, Guglielmo and Pietro, were part of the invading forces of CHARLES D’ANJOU in Sicily in the 1260s. GOFFREDUCCIO, GOFFREDO II, D’IANVILLE obtained Alife, and five other fiefs, as compensation when they relinquished Calvi and Mondragone. Those places were outside of the realm and were transferred to Conte d’Artois. GOFFREDO II, son of GOFFREDO, is thought to have died around 1300. If this is accurate, there appears to be a conflict as other sources maintain the House D’AVELLA held the Duchy of Alife until 1307. To date, the sources consulted have not named any member of the House D’IANVILLE as duke of Alife however these same sources, and others, mention their rule. Hints of a connection to Alife surface later when the 2° Conte di Alife, Goffredo II Marzano married Ceccarella di Janville, daughter of the conte di Sant’Angelo.

13?? – 13???: GOFFREDO II D’IANVILLE

1345 – 1383 MARZANO

TOMMASO MARZANO (died 1404): He was the son of Goffredo I Marzano 2° conte di Squillace and Giovanna Ruffo, widow of Filippo Stendardo, a name we will encounter again. Tommaso married Rogasia d'Evoli, daughter of Giovanni d'Evoli, conte di Trivento.

Titles 1345 – 1383:

Duca di Alife – in 1383 the Duchy of Alife became the County of Alife
Cavaliere (knight) of the kingdom
Consul and Chamberlain to the King of Naples
Viceroy of the Abruzzi

1345 – 1383: TOMMASO MARZANO

26: IL CONTI DI ALIFE – MARZANO, STENDARDO & ORIGLIA

1383 – 1420 MARZANO

TOMMASO MARZANO, former Duca di Alife (died 1404)

Titles 1383 – 1404:

1383 – 1404: 1° Conte di Alife (nominated)
1383 – 1404: Gran Camerlengo to the King of Naples

GOFFREDO II MARZANO (13?? – c1420): Son of Roberto Marzano, 3° conte di Squillace and nephew of TOMMASO MARZANO, 1° Conte di Alife. He married Ceccarella di Janville, daughter of Amelio di Janville, conte di Sant'Angelo and Violante di Aspech. Their unnamed daughter married Rinaldo I di Durazzo, Principe di Capua. She was the Contessa di Alife after Goffredo's death until her own in 1423.

Titles:

1392: Luogotenente della Camera di Sommaria
1400: ebbe in dono le città di Teano e Carinola of King Ladislao
Consigliere e Collaterale del Re di Napoli

Inherited Titles:

1404 – c1420: 2° Conte di Alife
1404 – c1420: Gran Camerlengo del Regno di Napoli dal 1404

1383 – 1404: TOMMASO MARZANO

1404 – 1420: GOFFREDO II MARZANO

Existing sources have conflicting accounts and no names or times of rule during the 15th century. The MARZANO rule is often shown as being interrupted, bracketing that of STENDARDO around 1404-1407 and ORIGLIA 1407-1419. However the available records appear to indicate the rule of the MARZANO extended from 1345 to around 1420. After this come the STENDARDO for possibly 3 decades (1420-1450) and the elusive ORIGLIA for perhaps 1 decade (1450-1459)

1420 - 1450

BOFFA-STENDARDO

The Stendardo came from the French city of Berre in Provence with Guglielmo Etandard, marshall and admiral to Carlo I, d'Angio. He Italianized the surname to STENDARDO.

MASINO BOFFA: Married in 1417 to **GIOVANELLA STENDARDO**, daughter of Giannotto

Titles:

Conte di Alife (>1420?)

Lord of Pozzuoli

GRAN CANCELLIERE of the Kingdom



THE STENDARDO COAT OF ARMS

looks VERY similar to

THE IACUZIO COAT OF ARMS



MATTEO BOFFA STENDARDO: Son of Masino Boffa and Giovannelle Stendardo.

Titles:

Conte di Alife

C1420 – 14??: MASINO BOFFA

14?? – C1450: MATTEO BOFFA STENDARDO

On 5 March 1385, the army of King Carlo Durazzo of Naples under Jacobella Stendardo, aided by Francesco de la Rath, Count of Caserta, skirmished with the Papal troops of Urban VI at Afragola on the north side of Naples.

1450 – 1459

ORIGLIA

This family has been elusive not only in relationship to Alife, but to the kingdom entirely. Only two definitive references have been found which state that members of the Origlia family were rulers, in lines now extinct, in "Montagna" which likely refers to Brindisi Montagna, situated in the center of the peninsula at the southern end in the Province of Potenza in the Basilicata region and in Porto, on the west coast about 50 miles south of Salerno.

Giovanna I d'Angio, Queen of Naples

(or) Being a Queen is not always a piece of cake!

In 1343 Pope Clement VI sent a Cardinal to take temporal control of the Kingdom of Naples. Once there, he instead brought GIOVANNA to Rome where she was crowned GIOVANNA, Queen of Naples at a glorious coronation ceremony at Santa Chiara Church in Rome in August 1344.

Having been bartered off in a dynastic marriage at the age of six, to Andre, one of the Hungarian royal princes, she longed for a more rewarding relationship. Confiding her feelings about her husband to her chamberwoman Dona Cancha, her companion since infancy, she is reported to have exclaimed "I am troubled by his look, his voice makes me tremble: I fear him." GIOVANNA, who was actually in love with Charles, Duke of Durazzo, is supposed to have stated "When one is fifteen, a crown is heavy to wear, and I was sacrificed to a man whom I can never love." Some overzealous courtiers believed this was a covert way for the queen to sanction the removal of Andre.

A plot was formed to kill him while on a hunting expedition. Charles learned of the plot and fearful for the queen forewarned her. QUEEN GIOVANNA and Prince Andrew managed to escape this attempt. Soon however, the Prince was assaulted in his chambers and the assassination plot brought to a closure. The lifeless body of the Queen's Consort was hung from the castle by a silk cord, eventually dropping in the courtyard below where it remained for two days before he was found by Royal Guards.

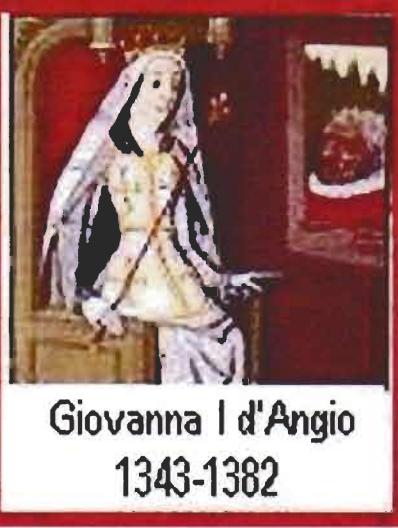
Prince Andre's murder outraged the members of the family and the Governors of Naples who did not believe the testimony of their queen. She vowed that she slept through the entire incident. Accordingly, His Holiness organized an official inquiry into the Prince's death and, fearing that Lajos I, King of Hungary might seek vengeance for his brother's murder, set forth a decree that every member of the plot to kill the Prince—including QUEEN GIOVANNA (if the investigation found her guilty) was to be severely punished by death.

GIOVANNA soon after remarried Louis, Duke of Taranto and citizens were unsettled with the apparent lack of grief over her first husband's murder. The "peasants" formed a mob that stormed the Castel Nuovo demanding the names of those involved in the murder of their Prince. Of course, true peasants had neither the weapons nor the skill required to storm anything, much less a well-fortified castle! These were the opposition Barons and foreigners in the pay of the Pope.

A force of men under instructions from the Pope in Rome seized the guards that were on duty on the night of Prince Andre's murder, bound them, took them to a ship so there screams could not be heard, and tortured them all until two of them finally confessed who some of the conspirators were. The guilty two were then returned to the castle where they were tied to the tails of a triple row of horses, dragged through the streets of the town and hung in a public square until dead.

The first persons found guilty of Prince Andre's death included the Counts and Countesses of Terlizzi and Morcone—but there were many others and the search for them pursued under the direction of the King Lajos I of Hungary. The Counts were lashed with cat-o-nine tails until the skin hung in shreds. They were further mutilated with knives and finally chunks of flesh were torn off with red-hot pincers.

The next day the Countesses, the younger being only 18 years of age, were stripped naked and raped by Hungarian soldiers. Naked and ravaged, they were taken by carts to their place of execution. They moved slowly through the town to allow the citizens to taunt, humiliate, torment and abuse them more. Their executioners, armed with sharp knives, did not dispatch of their duties quickly. Instead, they slowly cut pieces from the Countesses naked body's amidst their screams of terror and pain. They watched as the chunks of flesh cut from their person were thrown into the **crowd of peasants that had gathered**. To their horror, instead of disapproval and scorn and disgust, the peasants revoltingly scrambled for the chunks of flesh to be kept as souvenirs or more likely, and more hideously, used for soup. A huge fire awaited the semi-conscious Countesses and they were thrown into the flames to be burned alive. The excited mob, carrying axes and pitchforks, rushed the fire and pulled out the victims. Had they finally found the spine required to take a stand against such subhuman and barbaric behavior? No, they went even lower, tearing what was left of the moaning countesses' apart, limb from limb, until they bled to death. They carted away the Countesses bones and made whistles and dagger handles which they sold for large amounts of money. There was a brisk trade in counterfeit "Countesses bone dagger handles" while Naples population of stray dogs and cats, and orphans, plummeted.



Giovanna I d'Angio
1343-1382

A few days later Conrad of Catanzaro was captured and suffered a slow death of torture by wheel which had sharp knives to slice and shred their victim. GIOVANNA I, now 20 years of age (1347), fled to her lands of Avignon in French territory in an attempt to escape prosecution, taking refuge with the Anti-Pope Clement VI. In exchange for providing safety, Giovanna sold Avignon to the Papacy which was already serving as the French Vatican City.

Clement VI, taken in by her apparent grief, believed in GIOVANNA'S innocence and absolved her of all charges, at the same time blessing her previous marriage to Count Louis of Tarentum and proclaiming him as King of Naples and King of Jerusalem. A conspiracy in 1357 involving bloody riots throughout Italy began at the University of Naples where scholars incited the citizens and provoked them to riot against Hungarian armies who occupied and ravaged their kingdom unchecked. Citizens, fed up with the invaders and, belatedly offering some measure of support for their beleaguered queen, took to the streets the streets yelling

Long live Queen Giovanna and death to the Hungarians!

In 1360, Pope Innocent VI begged Lajos I, King of Hungary to again send an army of 7,000 infantry and another 10,000 horsemen to invade Naples and conquer the kingdom. Learning beforehand of the attempted siege of the city, GIOVANNA I and her husband Prince Louis fled Naples to the safety to Gaeta, a prestigious, ancient site situated on the slopes of the Torre di Orlando north of the capital, overlooking the Mediterranean Sea. Her cousin Charles remained behind thinking that he had nothing to fear.

He was soon after arrested and condemned to death, along with several of his Princes that were also suspected as co-conspirators by the invaders who held no legal authority. Charles' life was spared. In the Battle of Napoli that followed, the Hungarian army had overpowered Naples

and proceeded to pillage the city again. When the army returned to their homelands, they stole most of the city's wealth.

Following Anti-Pope Clement VI negotiated a truce whereby GIOVANNA paid the King of Hungary 300,000 florins for the cost of the battle, despite the fact that it was her lands he invaded and pillaged. Louis, the Queen's Consort, shortly after fell sick with fever and died on June 5th 1362.

QUEEN GIOVANNA I soon married a third time. James, Duke of Aragon, was the son of the King of Majorca. Widowed a third time in the mid 1370s, she took a fourth husband. Otto, Duke of Brunswick was a German groom.

One of her impertinent subjects, Bartolommeo Prigiani, did not care for the queen's actions, though it was none of his business. In 1378 he was elected Pope Urban VI, and despite being the first Pope born in Naples, he turned on his former monarch, breaking all of his vows and pledges of support. Urban VI declared QUEEN GIOVANNA I excommunicated and unlawfully declared her deposed. He then offered the pilfered crown to King Lajos I of Hungary who wisely declined, realizing that GIOVANNA was still seated on the throne; she was the lawful QUEEN and the Pope nothing but a traitor.

GIOVANNA's cousin Carlo of Durazzo stepped forward to claim the throne. GIOVANNA had been betrayed by two more people she had helped in the past. The local Catholic Bishops and Priests, acting on orders from their nefarious master in Rome, fomented disorder in the capital, struck by rising food prices and less available food due to the devastation of the plague. The priests urged the citizens to rise up in protest against their QUEEN and as food supplies became exhausted. Their dead were thrown into the castle yard so that they might decompose and pollute the air that the QUEEN breathed. The priests knew nothing of Christian charity for, if they did, they would have better spent their energies helping to feed the hungry rather than persecute the innocent.



For a third time Lajos I, acting on Urban VI's orders, sent an army 8,000 strong to invade the kingdom whence they arrived on January 5th, 1380. QUEEN GIOVANNA's husband Otto courageously led his army to defend the Castel Nuova in a bloody hand to hand combat; he was greatly outnumbered and, covered with blood and sweat, with his sword broken in half in his hands, he surrendered. The army seized the castle, and arrested QUEEN GIOVANNA I and her wounded husband. They were imprisoned in Castel dell' Ovo while their fate was decided by the King of Hungary.

The queen was soon to be separated from her husband; she was moved out of the city for fear of a rescue attempt and held at Castle Muro in Lucano. On May 5, 1381, two Hungarian nobles, dressed in armor, broke through the door of her chambers. GIOVANNA could offer but token resistance as she was overpowered and strangled to death. Not satisfied, they chopped off her head and threw the headless corpse over the balcony into the courtyard below.

As one of Pope Urban's predecessor's had wanted, the king of Aragon had taken over the island of Sicily, as well as the title King of Sicily, in the 13th century. The papacy threatened excommunication and warned that kings can be dethroned by the Pope. The Aragonese monarch held firm, replying that the Pope should take care for Kings can throw a Pope out of Saint Peter's! Meanwhile CARLO marched on Naples a month later and claimed the throne as CARLO III DURAZZO, KING OF NAPLES.

SEVEN GREAT OFFICES OF THE STATE

There were Seven Great Offices of State and the seven great officers worked for the king in a similar fashion as the Cabinet of the President of the United States. These positions were inheritable, and they provided a source of additional income to the Barons who held them. Often the real duties fell to the 2nd-in-line, the vice-[insert title of office here] who wielded actual authority. This was not unique to Naples; it was probably imported at a time of transition where the new ruling monarch was foreign and needed to appease the local nobility while having an unquestioningly loyal “vice-cabinet” to do his bidding. This preserved the income of the nobles and allowed for the very-real functions of these offices to be carried out.

The **SEVEN GREAT OFFICES OF STATE OF THE KINGDOM OF SICILY** were:

I. GRAND SENESCHAL – GRAN SINISCALCO

Ran the Royal household; preeminent office at court, responsible for protocol, fêtes, processions, ceremonies and the like. Equivalent to the U.S. Chief of Protocol.

**II. GRAND CHAMBERLAIN – GRAN CIAMBELLANO OR
GRAN CAMERARIO OR
GRAN CAMERLENGO**

Ciambellano was the Anglo-Saxon form while Camerlengo is the Frankish or German form. Performed functions similar to our Secretary of the Treasury; sometimes the office was divided between the treasury of the kingdom “del Tesoro” and the treasury of the monarch “del sovrano.”

III. HIGH ADMIRAL – GRANDE AMMIRAGLIO

Commander of the Navy; hereditary in the Marzano family

IV. GRAND PROTONOTARY – GRAN PROTONOTARO

Head of the royal secretarial staff; drafting of the king’s correspondence, drawing up of privileges and administrative acts and the compilation of laws, control of the chancery but not the state seals which fell to the chancellor. Fees for the use of required seals on official documents generated significant income. Became hereditary in the Gaetani family from the 15th century.

V. LOGOTHETE - LOGOTECA

Spokesman of the monarch, highest office under Federico I; was often combined with preceding as in Gaetani; combined function similar to our Attorney General.

VI. GRAND CHANCELLOR – GRAN CANCELLIERE

2nd after the King in judicial council matters, responsible for appointment of all public notaries, and registrar of Univ of Naples, used state seals and collected fees for their use.

VII. GRAND CONSTABLE – GRAN CONNESTABILE

Military commander; with the High Admiral would constitute the Joint Chiefs of Staff

THE HOUSE OF GAETANI

The nobility was essential to govern a kingdom – they fortified and manned the castles of the realm, their peasantry provided the food and clothing required, they provided the bodies for the military – and they paid – to pasture sheep, to possess a duchy or garrison a castle – it was the money of the nobility that funded the state's treasury. Individual taxes were not collected by the state – the amount a duke owed for everyone under his authority was collected from the duke – it was his responsibility to get reimbursed by his subjects. A list of the titled nobility of the kingdom in 1730 under Carlo VI Hapsburg has 821 names! This included 155 Principi, 267 Duchi, 247 Marchesi and 52 Conti – that's a lot!!! The complete list is in appendix 8.



flourished in the 10th century, and is the accredited founder of the HOUSE OF GAETANI for the Neapolitan, Sicilian and Roman lines. In 1032 Pandulf IV, Prince of Capua captured Gaeta and deposed the reigning duke. In the late eleventh century **CRESCENTIO GAETANI**, a descendant of **CONSTANTINE**, was Duke of Fondi. This **CRESCENTIO** was the father of one of the GAETANI Popes: **JOVANNI GAETANI** of Gaeta became **GELASIUS II** (1118 – 1119). The second GAETANI pope was **BENEDETTO GAETANI** of Anagni who became **BONIFACE VIII** (1294 – 1303).

By the end of the thirteenth century the Neapolitan lines of this ancient family had divided into several branches and held large landed estates in the Campagna and elsewhere. One branch settled in the vicinity of Naples as the dukes of Traetto and counts of Fondi and Caserta, as well as being vassals and favorites of the crown of Naples. This line is the one detailed in this section. In the twelfth and thirteenth centuries the rulers in Fondi were from the **DELL'AQUILA** family who married into the GAETANI. Five titles in the GAETANI family are found in the 1730 list of nobility in appendix 8:

Principe de Caserta

Luca di Laurenzana

Conte di Alife

Principe di Piedimonte

Luca di Coia

The Sicilian GAETANI originally hailed from Pisa. They enjoyed three distinct and illustrious periods on the island: the first from **RICCARDO GAETANI** under William I, the second from **ANTONIO GAETANI** in Catania in 1370 and the third from **PIETRO GAETANI** in Palermo from 1417. The family played an important role in the histories of Palermo, Messina, Catania, Siracusa, Naro and others. They were princes of Cassaro, dukes of Valverde, marquis of Antella and of Sortino, counts of Bastiglia, of Laiatico, of Recalmuto and lords of Bambina, Casalotto and San Andrea, Calatabiano, Castronovo, Canicarao, Comiso and Fontana Fredda, Leonforte, Mendola, Monastero, Saccolino, Stellaini and Misilini, Tripi, etc. Notable members include:

- ❖ **PIETRO GAETANI**: lord of Tripi, was *presidente* of the kingdom of Sicily in 1449.
- ❖ **BERNABÒ GAETANI**: lord of Castronovo, 1524, established family in Siracusa.
- ❖ **CESARE GAETANI**: 1° marchese of Sortino, prince of Cassaro 5 July 1631.
- ❖ **PIETRO GAETANI** of Bologna: prince of Cassaro, 1705.
- ❖ **CESARE GAETANI** of Lanza: prince of Cassaro, magistrate of Palermo 1773 – 1774.
- ❖ **CARLO GAETANI**: lord of Villallegra 1695 – 1696.
- ❖ **BLASCO GAETANI**: 1° count of Bastiglia, captain of the cavalry under King Carlo II.
- ❖ **LUIGI GAETANI** of Salonia: 1° duke of Valverde and count of Racalmuto, 1706.

THE PRINCES OF TEANO AND DUKES OF SERMONETA:

Sermoneta, the center of the domain of the **GAETANI** family in the Campania, was an ancient city with a feudal castle, situated in the foothills of the Volscian mountains. Above it and to one side were the ruins of the great castle of Norba; below were the beautiful remains of Nymsa; while at its foot, extending to the sea, lay the Pontine Marshes. The greater part of this territory, which was traversed by the Appian Way, including the Cape of Circello, was the property of the **GAETANI**. The accredited founder is **GIACOBELLO GAETANI**, whose grandson, **GUGLIELMO GAETANI**, obtained the duchy of Sermoneta. The marquisate of Cisterna was conferred on the family by Sixtus V in 1585. The head of the house in 1908, **ONORATO GAETANI**, 4° Duke of Sermoneta, 4° Prince of Teano, Duke of San Marco, Marquis of Cisterna, etc., was a Senator of the kingdom of Italy, and was minister for foreign affairs for a short time. The ducal line became extinct in 1961 while the princely line ended with the death of **DONNA LELIA GAETANI** in 1977. The castle is now part of the **ROFFREDO GAETANI FOUNDATION**. Between April and May the castle is occupied by UNESCO restorers who continue the restoration started at the beginning of the twentieth-century by **GELASIO GAETANI**, architect, historian, and hero of the First World War. Concerts are held in July in the Piazza d'Armi by some of the most well known contemporary artists and orchestras.



Before venturing (wallowing?) into the morass of names, titles, and places of interest (there's LOTS of pretty pictures to keep your interest) I want to take this opportunity to list four of the extinct lines. In addition to the line of the Princes of Teano and Dukes of Sermoneta above, other extinct GAETANI lines are:

- **LORDS OF CUZZOLA**: (*GAETANI*) extinct in 15th century
- **COUNTS DELLA TORRE**: (*GAETANI DELLA TORRE*) extinct on 23 January 1888
- **LORDS OF MAENZA AND NORMA**: (*GAETANI*) extinct, date unknown
- **LORDS OF SAN MARCO**: (*GAETANI DI LICATOLA*) extinct, date unknown



GAETANI

These three picturesque villages above, twenty-five miles northeast of Rome, formed the first nucleus of the Gaetani domains at the beginning of the fourteenth century.



GIOVANNI GAETANI

He was cousin of Pope Celestine III (Giacinto Borboni) (1110 – 1198), elected in 1191. The Pope allowed GIANGAETANI, as he was known, to buy the above-pictured fiefs of Vicovaro, Licenza and Roccagiovine about 25 miles northeast of Rome as well as Nettuno, 40 miles south of Rome.

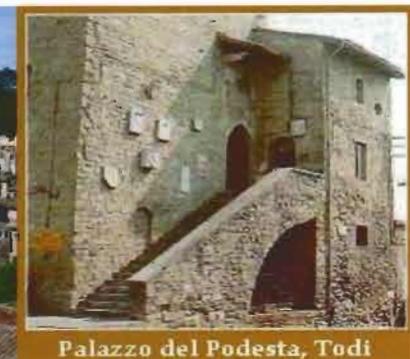
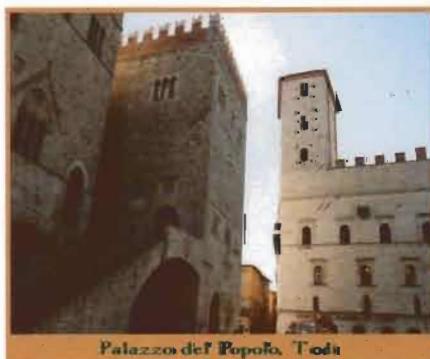
MATTIA GAETANI

This first-named GAETANI of prominence in the southern kingdom was born around 1190. He fought in the armies of Manfred where he achieved the rank of General. He lived beyond seventy years, dying sometime after 1260.

GOFFREDO GAETANI (1210 – 1275) Married Emilia Conti of Patrasso di Alatri



This son of Mattia was made Podestà of Todi in 1274, a short-lived position as he died the following year around the age of sixty-five. Todi is perched on a tall two-crested hill overlooking the east bank of the river Tiber, commanding distant views in every direction. This title may have gone to a younger brother as it was not granted to Goffredo's son until 1282. The podestàs was the appointed position of chief magistrate of a city-state. Appointed to a one year term by the citizens or by the citizens' representatives, the podestàs exercised the supreme power in the city, both in peace and war, and in foreign and domestic matters alike.



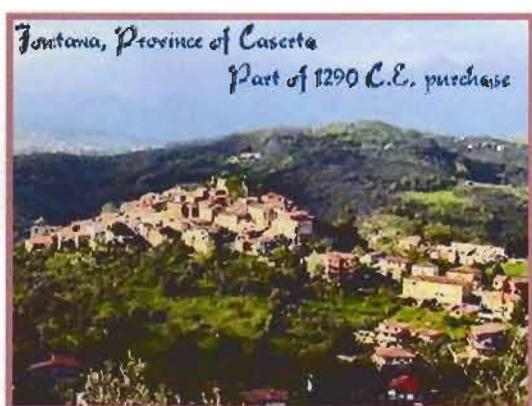
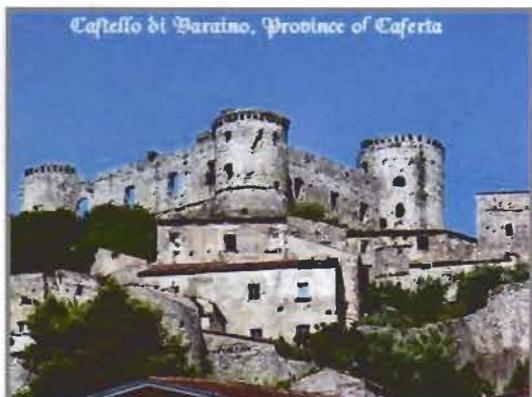
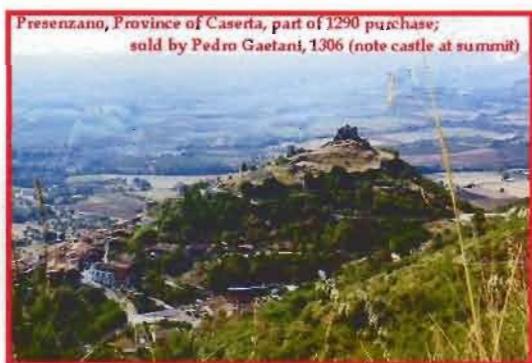
GOFFREDO GAETANI (c1230 – after 5 October 1296) Married: Elizabeth Orsini

Perhaps this guy should be nicknamed “Lucky Goffredo” (also called *Roffredo*) for it was during his adulthood that his brother or cousin became a powerful man, a very powerful man in fact: the Pope! Cardinal Benedetto Gaetani became Pope Boniface VIII (reigned 1294 – 1303). And considering that Pope’s are human too, they are subject to all the inconsistencies and weaknesses known to man which in the case of Pope Boniface VIII included NEPOTISM, large-scale NEPOTISM – about 200 castles and 139 fiefdoms, 7 dukedoms and 4 principalities. But, lest either appear tarnished, first, what the Pope did was *du rigeur* for the times and, had he lived longer, much more would’ve been done; second, the *only* title obtained by Goffredo after his brother or cousin (depending on the source) got to wear that funny hat and fabulous dresses in 1294 was the one that accompanied his *purchase* of the “Tower” in 1295. He served as a *Senatore di Roma* from 1290 to 1292. So much for nepotism; guess he and Boniface weren’t best buds growing up together!

Titles:

- December 1282 – May 1283: Podestà of Todi.
- 1282: Lord of Calvi, Lavello & Vairano
- 1 August 1283: Lord of Selvamolle, purchased.
- 1288: invested as 1° Conte di Caserta, by Carlo II d’Angio
- 1 April 1291: Lordship of Vairano confirmed by the king of Sicily.

Goffredo purchased, in February 1290, the castles in Ducenta, Atino, Presenzano, Fontana, Vairano and Calvi; and an unnamed “tower” on 14 September 1295 which may have been the Torre found in Mola di Gaeta, though that structure was not built until 1299, or the Torre Astura located originally on a close offshore island at Nettuno, now a peninsula. The previous castellan of Torre Astura was Giovanni Frangipane who betrayed King Conradien who asked for sanctuary at that place. Frangipane brought him to Naples to be decapitated by Carlo I d’Angio in 1268. In 1286, fittingly, the last Frangipane was killed in that very same fortress. (see pictures, top of next page)





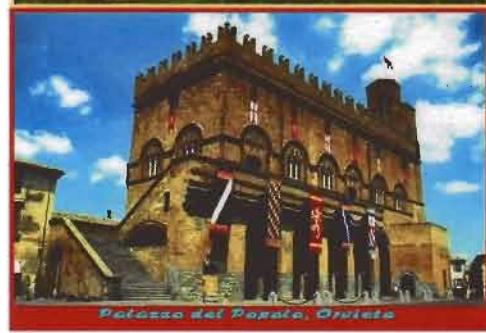
Torre Asturo, Nettuno



Torre Asturo

PIETRO II GAETANI (1250 – October 1308) Married: 1270 Giovanna Ceccano.

He was assassinated in October 1308, near Ceccano at age 58 for undiscovered reasons.



Titles & Territory:

- 12 September 1282: Prosecutor of the Chapter of Santa Maria di Sermoneta.
- 8 January 1296: Councillor and “famiglio” of the King of Naples, an honorary position.
- 1 July 1296: Podestà di Orvieto, he lived in the Palazzo del Capitano del Popolo
- 1296 – 1306: 2 ° Conte di Caserta, sold to Diego, Conte of Montorio, 1306.
- 1296 – 1303: Marquis di Brand d'Ancona.
- 28 September 1299: Lord di Sermoneta.
- 3 October 1300 papal approval for acquisition of Sermoneta, Bassiano and San Donato received.
- 28 January 1302: purchase of San Felice confirmed.
- 7 February 1304: sold “half” of Torre Astura.

Brand d'Ancona, a.k.a. Marca Aconitana, was one of four provinces of

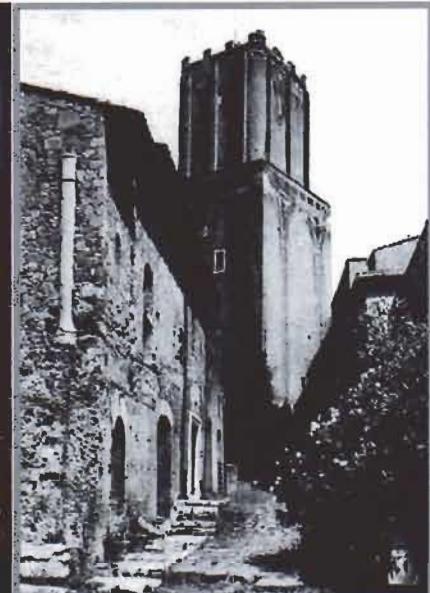
Pope Innocent III created in 1198, the first year of his 18-year reign. It was governed by appointed Papal rectors.

In Rome Pietro secured the fortresses of Capo di Bove and Torre delle Milizie (top of next page), the latter remaining in the family for 20 years. The Torre was enlarged and strengthened under their rule and rivaled Castel Sant'Angelo as Rome's main fortress.





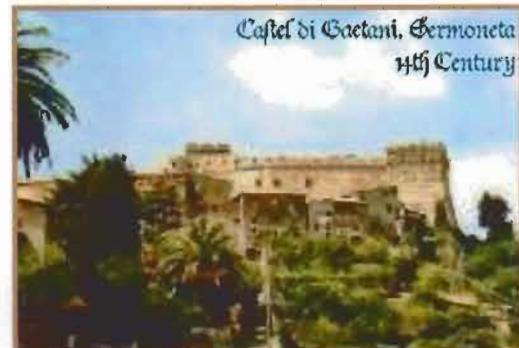
Castel Caetani on Capo di Bola, Rome



Torre di Milizie, Rome



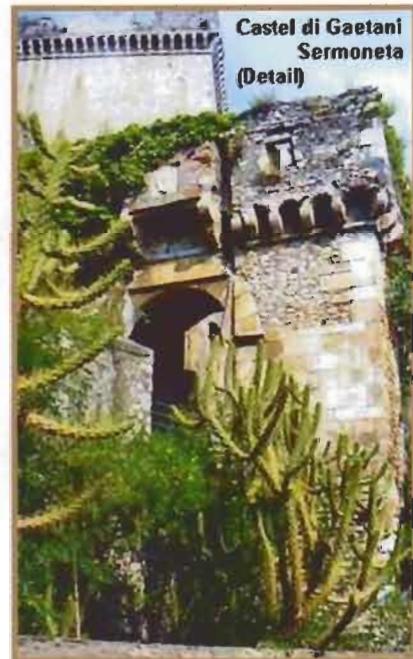
Sermoneta.



Castel di Gaetani, Sermoneta
14th Century



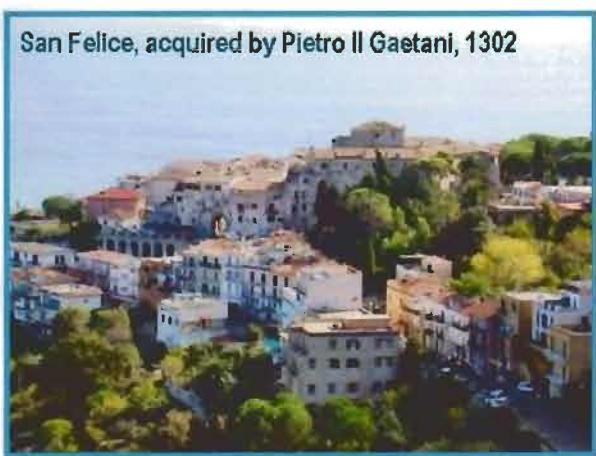
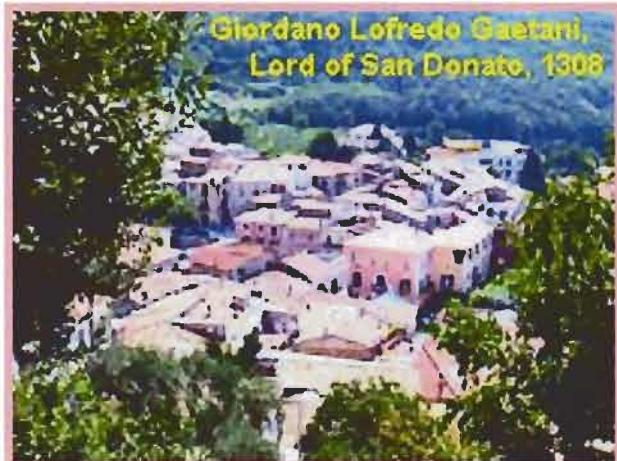
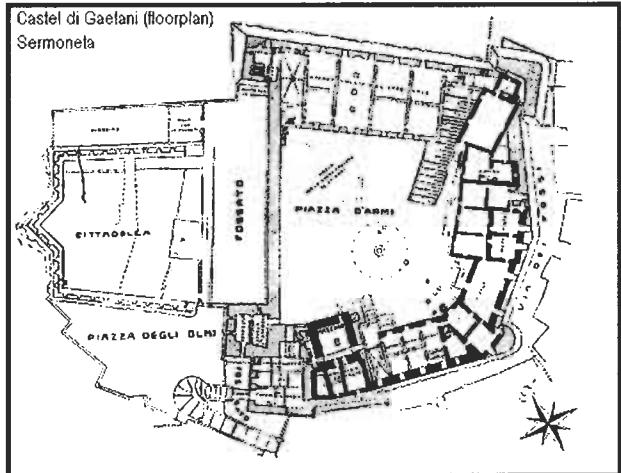
Sermoneta, Provincia di Latina, Regioni di Lazio
Bought by Pedro Gaetani in 1298



Castel di Gaetani
Sermoneta
(Detail)

The 14th century CASTEL DI GAETANI in Sermoneta.

In October 1297 Anagni Catenazio, a military nobleman and solicitor of the Caetani, appeared at the entrance of the fortress. The door was immediately opened. Catenazio touched it, closed it, reopened it and took ritual possession of the castle.



In 1297 PIETRO purchase the fiefs of Sermoneta and Bassiano from the Annibaldi family for 140,000 gold florins. In 1300, the purchase was confirmed by his cousin, the Pope.

The GAETANI enlarged the fortress. The most important building was the Hall of the Barons (also known as the Hall of the Lords) which they built adjacent to the main tower. Sermoneta's golden age was realized during the period of ONORATO III GAETANI when many of its buildings were constructed. The castle's wine cellars were very well stocked. It is said that during a visit by the Austrian emperor Federico III in 1452, his soldiers were permitted to have a free hand in the wine-cellars were they "ended in wine up to their knees."

In 1302, the purchase of San Felice was, likewise, confirmed by his cousin, seated on the appropriately-named throne of Santo Pietro.

Giordano Lofredo Gaetani, Lord of Traetto, 1299



GAETANI DELL'AQUILA

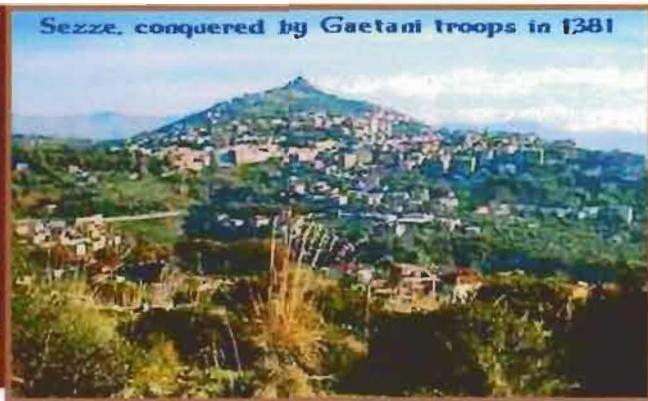
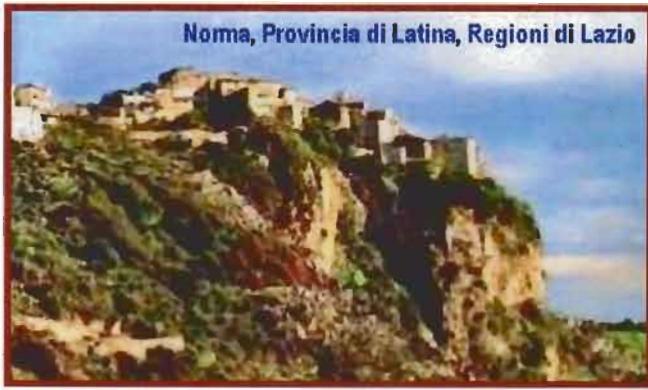
In a turn-around of customary practice, the city of Aquila got its name from the local prominent family, the DELL'AQUILA. FEDERICO I founded the city as an arsenal in the first quarter of the thirteenth century. In 1140 Fondi passed to the DELL'AQUILA family remaining until 1232, when ROGERIO DELL'AQUILA, Conte di Fondi died. The regency of his son GOFREDO went to POPE GREGORY IX (reigned 1227 – 1241) while the fief went to the Hohenstaufen King of Sicily FEDERICO I who returned it to the family where it came into the possession of one RICARDO DELL'AQUILA by 1299. Alongside the *GAETANI* powerbase in Sermoneta, Fondi would become the second center of *GAETANI* power for the next two centuries upon the formation of the *GAETANI DELL'AQUILA* through marriage.



GIORDANO LOFREDO GAETANI (died June 1335) Name also given as Gofredo; also known as "The Contecello." He was married 3 times:

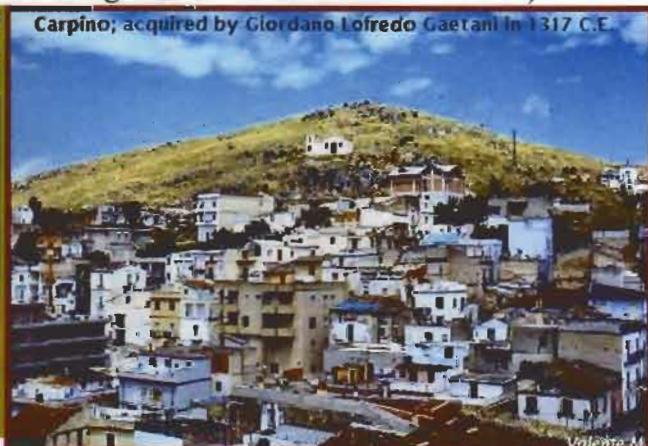
- (1): 1296 – Margherita Aldobrandeschi, divorced 1298.
- (2): 1299 – GIOVANNA DELL'AQUILA (1284 – 1317), Contessa di Fondi and Traetto daughter and heiress of Ricardo and Giacoma Ruffo. These titles came to the Gaetani family through Giovanna; she was the eldest surviving female in the dell'Aquila line with no direct male heirs.
- (3): >1317: Catherine of Ratta, daughter of Diego "1°" Conte di Caserta.





Titles:

- 28 February 1288: Canon of Santo Stefano di Sgurgola, a position he later renounced.
- 16 October 1299: 1° Conte di Fondi (other sources give 1317, when Giovanna died).
- 19 October 1299: Lord of Traetto and Suio
- 1308: Lord of Sermoneta, Norma, Ninfa, Sezze, Bassiano, San Donato, Traetto and Piperno.
- 1317: Lord of Pofi, Selvamolle, Torre, Trivigliano, Trevi, Filettino, Vallepietra and Carpino.
- 1317: “1° Count of Fondi in (despite his wife being “heiress of the Conte di Fondi”).



- 22 January 1322: Podestà di Siena.
- 10 August 1324: Captain General of Sperlonga & Castellammare di Stabia under Roberto d'Angio while conquering island of Sicily; leader of a squadron of galleons.

The transfer of the Aquila domains to the GAETANI is evident in the new coat-of-arms.



Pofi, acquired in 1317



*Vallepietra,
acquired 1317*



The GAETANI became the castellanes (caretakers) of the castle or tower in Mola di Gaeta that Carlos II d'Angio built. Mola di Gaeta was a small town on the shores of the Bay of Gaeta not far from Gaeta. The torre was built in 1299 and remains well-preserved today.

*Torre di
Mola di Gaeta*



*1324: Giordano Lofredo Gaetani,
Captain-General of Sperlonga*



NICOLÒ I GAETANI DELL'AQUILA (c1310 – 1348) Second wife was Giacomo Orsini.

Inherited titles upon his father's death:

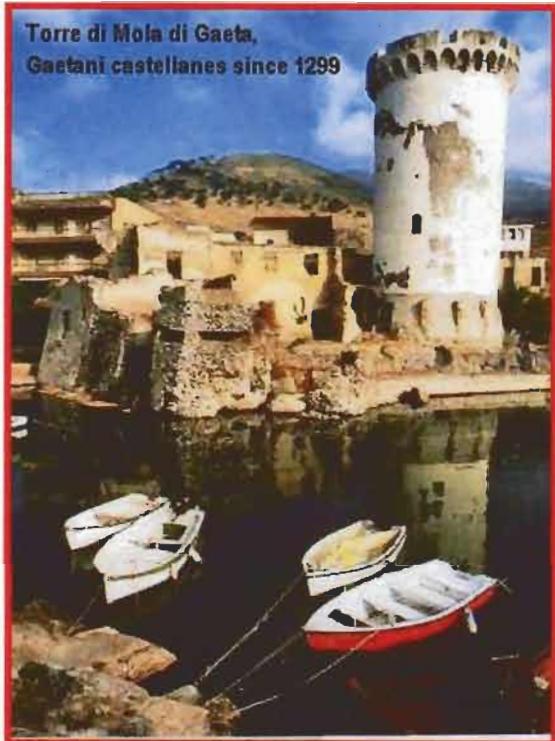
- 1335 – 1348: 2° Conte di Fondi
- 1335 – 1345: Lord of Sermoneta, Norma, Ninfa, Sezze, Traetto and Piperno.

Nicola was the GRAN CIAMBELLANO for the kingdom. During the Battle of Itri, 14 September 1346, he “ambushed the Neapolitans.” Had no heirs from first marriage to Violante della Ratta. Unclear what happened to the lordships of Sermoneta, et cetera between 1345 and 1348, however they were conferred upon his son after his death.

ONORATO I GAETANI DELL'AQUILA (d. 1400) Married Caterina del Balzo.

Inherited titles, upon father's death:

- 1348 – 1400: 3° Conte di Fondi
- 1348 – 1400: Lord of Sermoneta, Norma, Ninfa, Sezze, Traetto, Piperno and Bassiano.



Despite his 52-year reign he had no male heir and the titles passed to younger brother except, apparently, the lordship of Piperno. The castle in Fondi, with its round tower, was built in the 14th century by ONORATO I GAETANI over a stretch of ancient Roman walls and remains the symbol of the city to this day. The adjacent Palazzo del Principe ("Prince's Palace"), constructed in 1466-1477 and attributed to the Catalan architect Matteo Forcimanya. Very powerful, ONORATO was able to summon the **conclave of cardinals** to Fondi in 1378 to elect **Clement VII** against Urban VI during the Western or Papal Schism resulting from the return of the papacy to **Rome from Avignon** that year. Urban sat in Rome while **Clement** returned to Avignon. The GAETANI lost Fondi after the Charles VIII of France's expedition to southern Italy, and it was assigned to the condottiero Prospero Colonna.

GIACOMO II GAETANI DELL'AQUILA (1338 – c1420)

Younger brother and designated heir of ONORATO I. **Married:** c1365, Sveva Sanseverino. She brought the rights to Piedimonte and Morcone with her and ceded them to her son CRISTOFARO II in 1402. The two major GAETANI lines on mainland Sicily completely diverged with their two sons: the eldest, GIACOBELLI, heading the **Dukes of Sermoneta** and their second son CRISTOFARO II, heading the line we are following, the **Princes of Piedimonte**.

Inherited titles upon his brother's death:

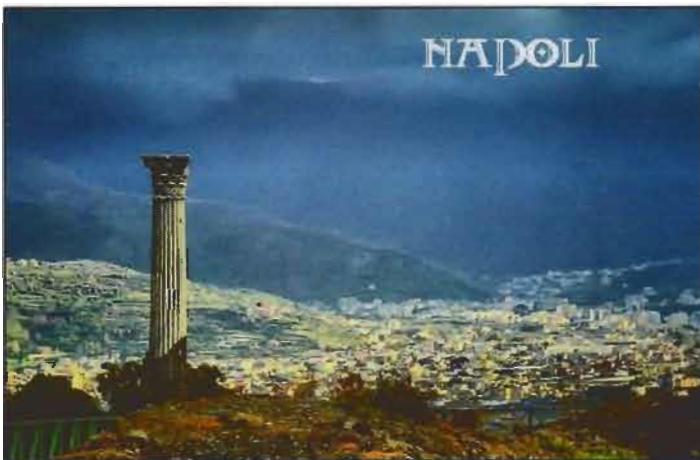
- 1400 – 1420: 4° Conte di Fondi; title passed to son CRISTOFARO.
- 1400 – 1420: Lord of Sermoneta, Norma, Ninfa, Sezze and Bassiano (but not Piperno) through his father upon the death of his older brother (and NICOLO's heir) in 1400; titles passed to grandson GIACOMO IV directly as son GIACOBELLI III died in 1408. Became the GAETANI Dukes of Sermoneta branch, extinct in 1961.



- Lord of Traetto
- Lord of Piedimonte, and Morcone; titles passed to son CRISTOFARO.
- Lord of Caserta; title passed to grandson GIACOMO IV.

The three 2nd-great-grandsons in the GAETANI Dukes of Sermoneta line which descended through GIACOBELLI III, GIACOMO IV and ONORATO III fared poorly against the Borgia. The eldest, NICOLA II, had died in 1494 but his young son BERNARDINO was murdered by Cesare Borgia in 1502; the next was GIACOMO V, Apostolic Protonotary, summed to the Vatican, imprisoned in Castel Sant'Angelo and poisoned by Borgia in 1500; and the third, GUGLIELMO fled to Mantua, not returning to claim Sermoneta until Alexander Borgia was dead (1503).

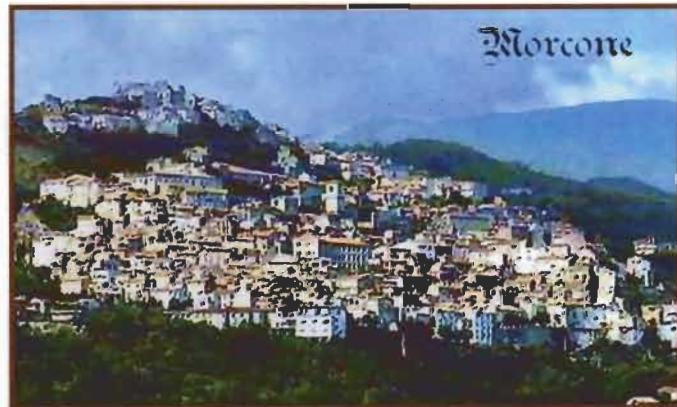
CRISTOFARO II GAETANI DELL'AQUILA Though he married twice, CRISTOFARO started his “second” family 15 years before his first wife, Isabella de Pizzutis, died in 1435. ONORATO, his first son by his at-the-time future second wife, Giovannella del Forno, was born in 1420. The happy parents were married when their son was 16 years old!



CRISTOFARO was the GAETANI DELL'AQUILA patriarch during the struggle for the throne between the Spanish D'ARAGONA and the French D'ANGIO. In autumn 1439 RENATO D'ANGIO left Naples under the care of the 19-year-old Queen, ISABELLA, Duchess of Lorraine to lay siege to Castello Nuovo. ALFONSO D'ARAGONA seized the opportunity to lay attack Naples with CRISTOFARO among his military force. CRISTOFARO was killed during the attack on 18 October 1439.

Titles:

- 17 February 1402: created 1° Conte di Morcone for territory ceded by his mother. Morcone, 45 miles northeast of Naples, had become crown-lands shortly after the conte di Morcone was implicated in the murder of Queen Giovanna I's husband Andre in 1345.
- 6 August 1406: Viceroy of Terra di Lavoro and Molise.
- 4 November 1418: 5° Conte di Fondi and Lord of Piedimont, through his mother, Giovanna dell'Aquila.
- 1419 – 1420: Viceroy of Abruzzo and Capitano dell'Aquila.
- 20 September 1420: was appointed GRAN PROTONOTARIO AND LOGOTECA of the Kingdom of Naples by GIOVANNA II D'ANGIO. The powerful GAETANI DELL'AQUILA acquired hereditary right to these two Offices of State.



In 1437, the lordship of Piedimonte was transferred to the youngest son GIACOMO, but, upon CRISTOFARO'S murder in 1439, title passed to eldest son ONORATO.

The Torre in Mola di Gaeta was granted to the GAETANI in 1299 by CARLOS II, D'ANGIO (1285 – 1309). NICOLA GAETANI, son of CRISTOFARO had renounced the position in favor of his father. When CRISTOFARO was murdered in 1439, the office reverted to the crown. ALFONSO returned it to NICOLA in consideration of the service he had rendered in the taking of Gaeta, and of the large sums which he and his father had spent in refurbishing and manning the Torre.



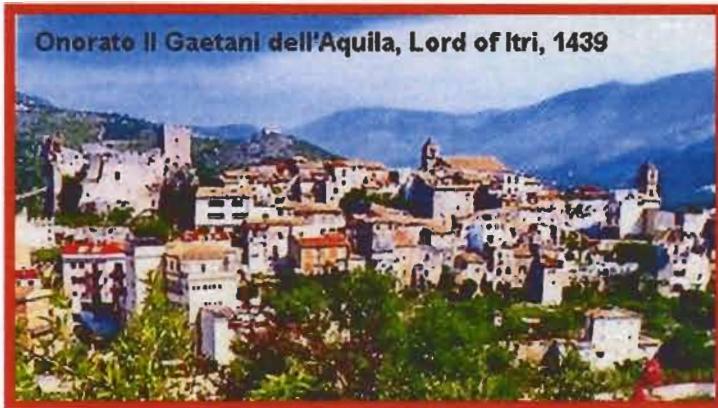
ONORATO II GAETANI DELL'AQUILA (c1420 – 25 April 1491) Son of CRISTOFARO and GIOVANNELLA DEL FORNO, born 16 years before they married, legitimised by Pope Martin V on 29 July 1432. Married: (1) Francesca of Capri; (2) Caterina Pignatelli

Titles:

- 14?? – 1437: 2° Conte di Morcone, title to youngest brother GIACOMO, 2° Conte di Morcone also, until 1443 when it passes to ONORATO'S eldest son BALDASSARRE.
- 1439 – 1491: 6° Conte di Fondi*
- 1439 – 1491: Lord of Alife, Piedimonte, Vallecorsa, Monticelli*, San Lorenzo, Caivano, Spigno*, Castelforte, Dragone, Le Fratte*, Castelnuovo*, Cusano, Itri*, Sperlonga*, Lenola*, Pastena* and Castel Onorato*.

The fiefs marked by * were taken by the BORGIA'S in 1497 and given to the Colonna family. Some titles may have passed for a short time to a grandson GIACOMO who died in 1502. They then passed to GIACOMO's younger brother ONORATO III. The sons did not inherit the titles because the elder son died in 1480 and the younger son Pietro was eliminated from succession for acts of treason. The castel in Itri has been attributed to DOCIBILI I GAETANI, consul of Gaeta, built around 882; the octagonal tower was added by his grandson, MARINO II, duke of Gaeta (978 – 984). Itri was part of the duchy of Gaeta, a possession of the DELL'AQUILA family, dukes of Fondi until transfer by marriage in 1299 and the GAETANI DELL'AQUILA line started.

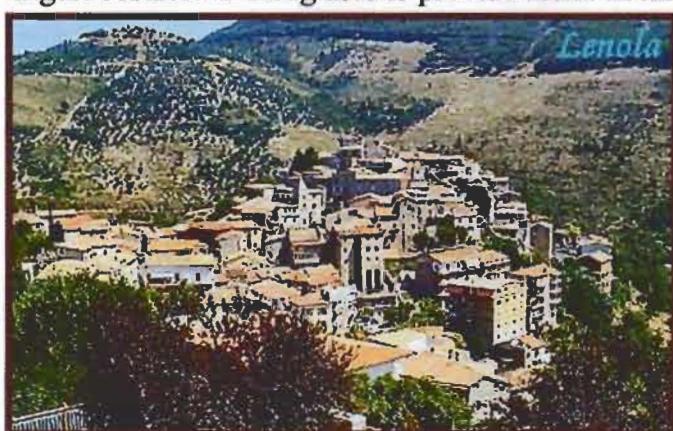




Onorato II Gaetani dell'Aquila, Lord of Itri, 1439



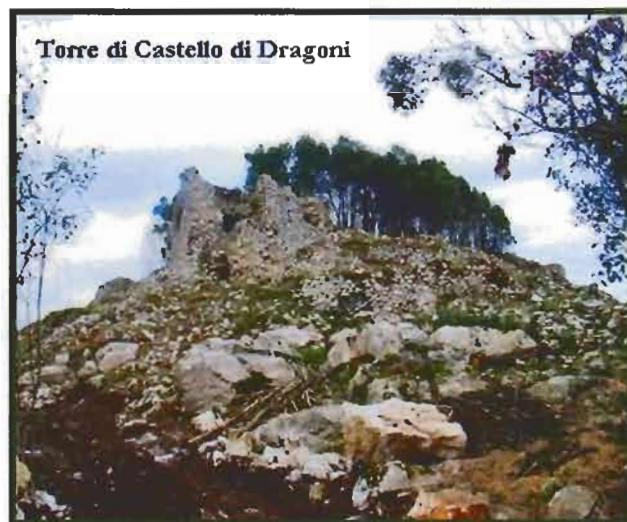
Castel d'Itri, built circa 882 by Docibilis I Gaetani, consul of Gaeta



In 1437 ONORATO GAETANI, 2° Conte di Morcone, was commander of a military regiment of "eighty lances" or 240 horse-mounted soldiers. The costs estimated to be 8 ducats per lance per month, 640 ducats for ONORATO, two-thirds was paid out of the revenue generated on his fiefs and from his personal funds while the remaining third was usually paid with cloth as uniforms were necessary and this removed the largest obstacle to being able to provide them. In turn,

ONORATO's citizens hoped for, and usually received, some type of 'gift' from the king in the form of lower taxes, better and more monopoly fees, etc. Alfonso also appointed the "active" cabinet members such as vice-chancellor in addition to the 'ceremonial' ones; while the office-holder had a significant say in who operated for him as the locumtenens.

1443 was a year that recorded events have been well-preserved. In that year he transferred the title of Conte di



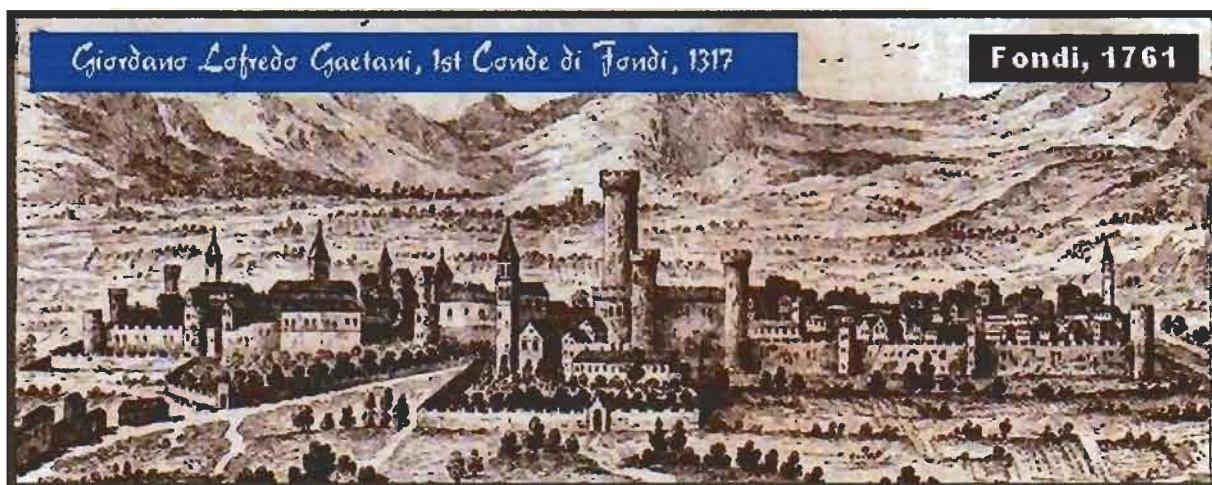


order to discuss its reply. This parliament held its final session on 9 March. On 1 April 1443 as part of the general festivities celebrating ALFONSO's victory, there was a spectacular tournament. The tournament was organized by the **Gran Protonotaro & Logoteca** ONORATO GAETANI, the **Gran Siniscalco** FRANCESCO ZURLO, and the Duke of Melfi. From 1443 to 1453 ONORATO acted as the commissioner supervising trade across the frontier of Terra di Lavoro from San Germano to Terracini at the coast. Import

and export taxes and duties could be lucrative, but the wooded mountain terrain of the central part of the peninsula made overland trade very difficult and much less profitable. On 12 July 1450 ONORATO, the **Gran Protonotaro**, 6° Conte di Fondi, head of the king's council led the procession from the port to the cathedral which gave a triumphal welcome to the king's admiral BERNAT VILAMARI returning to Naples from a cruise in the eastern Mediterranean and celebrating a victory over Venezia. The procession was led by the captain and masters of the galleys whose names were Vilamari, de Marimon and **GAETANI**. Here is evidence of the wealth of ONORATO as one or more ships of the fleet were owned by him. Three days later he received the king on his entry into the capital. ONORATO'S state salary was 500 ducats a year. On 28 May 1451 GAETANI loaned 5,000 ducats to the monarchy; this was one of the indirect costs of obtaining, enhancing or just keeping the positions of favor bestowed by the king.

ONORATO'S had two known sons, neither of which inherited their father's titles:

1. BALDASSARRE GAETANI DELL'AQUILA (c1438 – c1480) invested with title of 1° Conte di Traetto, 3° Conte di Morcone from 28 June 1443 until his death, title passed to a BENEDETTO GAETANI DELL'AQUILA, possibly a son, who was executed in August 1486 as a co-conspirator in the Revolt of the Barons; Patrizio Napoletano. Title then passed to the male heir of BALDASSARRE's younger brother.
2. PIETRO BERNARDINO CAETANI (1458 – 1492) arrested 1487 for participation in Revolt of the Barons, imprisoned and died as KING FERRANTE'S prisoner in Castelnuovo in 1492.



GAETANI DELL'AQUILA D'ARAGONA



THE PRINCES OF PIEDIMONTE AND DUKES OF LAURENZANA

The “official” history of the extant branch is based on the life of the first to be named **GAETANI DELL'AQUILA D'ARAGONA**. 1454 is sometimes specified as the first year of this line and “ONORATO” as being the first to bear the full name. Several errors have resulted from the wrong year and the wrong ONORATO.

In 1460, the armies of the Barons plundered Piedimonte d'Alife whose GAETANI lords supported the King. The addition of *D'ARAGONA* has often incorrectly been attributed to the marriage of ONORATO III into the royal family in the 1490s. But, almost 30 years earlier, on 29 October 1466 King Ferdinand II granted ONORATO II GAETANI DELL'AQUILA, the use of the stakes of Aragona in the GAETANI arms:

as if You were really born and of course in and Directed by our own house and family of Aragona - as if it had really originated from the blood of Aragona

These “stakes” are four red stripes on a field of gold/yellow seen on the left in the arms appearing on the Palazzo Ducale above. The crown has nine pearls which signify the title Count. The GAETANI DELL'AQUILA D'ARAGONA were destined for greater heights, and greater tragedies.

The Revolt of the Barons in 1485 propelled one GAETANI into the role of protector of the Royal family and good graces of KING FERRANTE I D'ARAGONA. ONORATO III GAETANI DELL'AQUILA D'ARAGONA (c1414 – 1528), Lord of Piedimonte and Alife, and the 6° Count of Fondi, was the sole Baron remaining loyal to the Aragonese monarch; he opposed a cousin Benedetto Gaetani dell'Aquila, the Conte di Morcone who was executed in the Castelnuovo in August 1486. ONORATO II was the son of Pietro Bernardino Gaetani who died as Ferrante's

prisoner in Castelnuovo in 1492, and his wife Constanza Orsini.

The royal court found refuge at COUNT GAETANI's then fortress in Piedimonte d'Alife and the Queen and Royal children were ONORATO'S guests while the King subdued the rebellion. That fortress is now the Palazzo Ducale in Piedimonte Matese and remains in GAETANI family. Some historians report that ONORATO III killed a son, Pietro, for participating in the Revolt of the Barons however the most detailed genealogy found to date by this author does not list Pietro as one of ONORATO'S eight children.

For his loyalty, ONORATO became an actual member of the Royal family when he was betrothed to Sancia d'Aragona, a daughter of Alfonso, in early 1493. The betrothal was annulled, followed by Sancia's marriage to Goffredo Borgia in Naples on 7 May 1494. Sancia's younger brother (by the same mother) Alfonso married Goffredo's notorious sister Lucrezia Borgia. Both Borgia's were illegitimate children of Pope Alexander VI. Becoming a member of the Royal family was through a second betrothal for ONORATO in the same year was to Lucrezia d'Aragona, the fifteenth of seventeen known children of Ferrante, in November 1493 in Naples. Her mother was one of Ferrante's mistresses, probably Eulalia Ravignano but possibly Giovanna Caracciola. On 28 November 1493 King Ferrante bestowed the title Duke of Traetto on Onorato, possibly on the same date as his marriage. Ferrante died the following year and was followed by two 1-year reigns: Alfonso II and Ferrante II, allowing for the growth of Vatican influence at the expense of the Aragonese.

The fiefs bestowed by the king were confiscated 20 May 1497 under orders from the Borgia Pope Alexander VI and condoned by the Pope's Aragonese puppet, Federico IV. Nearly all of ONORATO'S fiefs were confiscated by the Borgias and given to the Colonna family. In February 1500 Pope Alexander VI successfully confiscated the GAETANI dukes of Semoneta lands, giving them to his daughter Lucrezia Borgia d'Aragona. Lucrezia's husband, Alfonso d'Aragona, was murdered in Rome on 15 July 1500, perhaps by the orders of the GAETANI. The confiscation was not permanent and the fiefs were returned no later than the reign of Pope Paul III (1534 – 1549) who was GAETANI through his mother. The GAETANI DELL'AQUILA D'ARAGONA has retained these titles to this day.

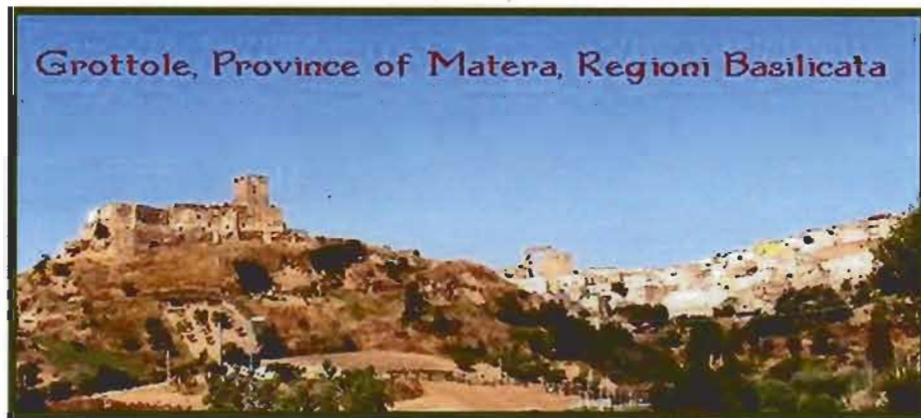


ONORATO III GAETANI DELL'AQUILA (c1470 – August 1528)

Ferrente I raised Traetto to a duchy in 1493 and Count ONORATO became Duke as well as the betrothed of the King's daughter.

Inherited titles:

- 7° Conte di Fondi, confiscated 1497 by Borgia Pope.
- 4° Count of Morcone (1502 – 1504 to younger brother Giacomo and again 1527 - 1550)
- 1508 – 1521: Signore di Piedimonte, Alife, and Gioia; and Montepeloso, Minervino, Mottole and Grottole; confiscated 21 January 1521 and settled on “Colonna, Vicerè di Napoli.”
- 28 November 1493: created 1° Duca di Traetto, confiscated 20 May 1497, maybe 1495.
- 22 December 1506: invested as Principe d'Altamura; confiscated also in 1521.

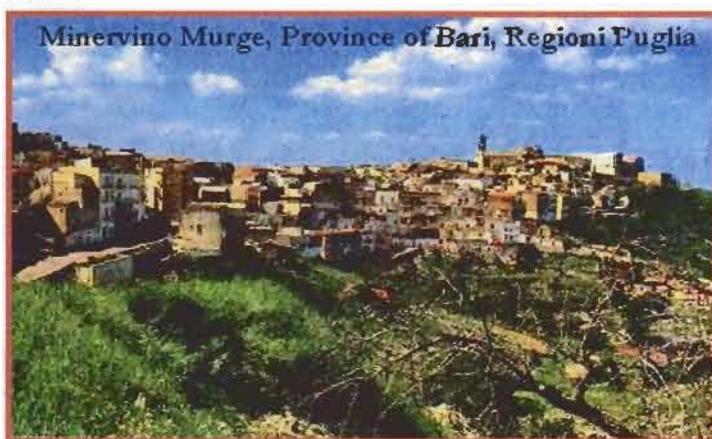


The county of Fondi, duchy of Traetto, and Lordships of Acquaviva, Maranola, Itri, Carpello, Sperlonga, Monticelli, Inola, Pastena, Schiglia, Castelnuovo, Frata, Spiro and Castel Onorato were confiscated in 1497 and given to the Colonna family, though they had been lost two years earlier when Charles VIII, King of France invaded. Alexander's daughter Lucrezia benefitted from confiscations ordered on 9 March 1499 from the GAETANI lands in Sermoneta, Bassiano, Ninfa and Norma, Tivera, Cisterna, San Felice (the Cape of Circello), and San Donato for which the Curia paid 80,000 ducats. Traetto and Fondi went to Prospero Colonna, called the 1° Duca di Traetto, and this grant was, inexplicably, renewed 15 November 1504 by Pope Julius II who had returned all the confiscated properties of the GAETANI Dukes of Sermoneta 10 months earlier.

After his death in 1523, these went to his son Prospero Colonna, called the 2° Duca di Traetto, who held them until his 1525 death. With that death, title to Fondi and Traetto returned to the GAETANI via LUIGI I, son of ONORATO.

ONORATO IV GAETANI, after surviving the battle of Lepanto against the Turks in 1572, erected a church to the Virgin Mary, the church of the Madonna della Vitoria, on the road descending from the castle.

ONORATO and his two sons Federico and Luigi all died in 1528 and it is known Federico was decapitated. Whether the other two deaths are coincidental or not is not known. GAETANI holdings were the target of the Borgia Pope Alexander VI.



FEDERICO GAETANI DELL'AQUILA D'ARAGONA Married Caterina Sanseverino

Titles 1504 – 1527:

- 5° Conte di Morcone; title confiscated, returned to his uncle Giacomo.

Patrizio Napoletano (meaning he lived in Naples but his fiefs were elsewhere). Disinherited by his father, ONORATO, for “treason” the specific act or time not being indicated. Beheaded at Naples on 7 December 1528.

LUIGI I GAETANI DELL'AQUILA D'ARAGONA Married Lucrezia Montalto in 1522.

Titles 1525 – 1528:

- 2° Duca di Traetto, confiscated from father in 1497; transferred to Vespisiano Colonna who died in 1528; duchy restored to son SCIPIO in 1525.
- Lord of Montepeloso

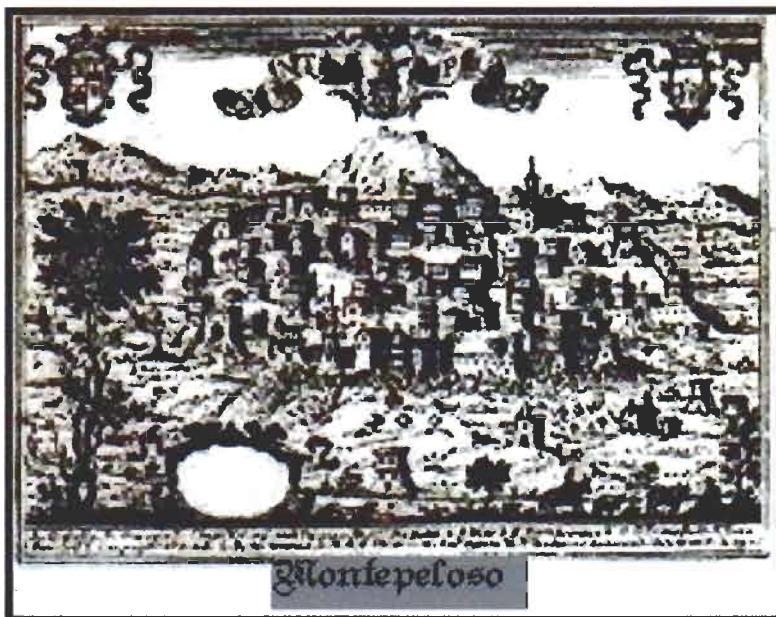
Patrizio Napoletano. A third son of ONORATO was also Lord of Piedimonte and Grottole.

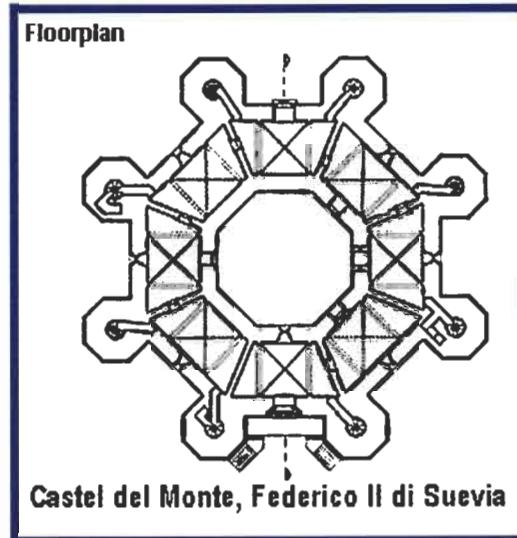
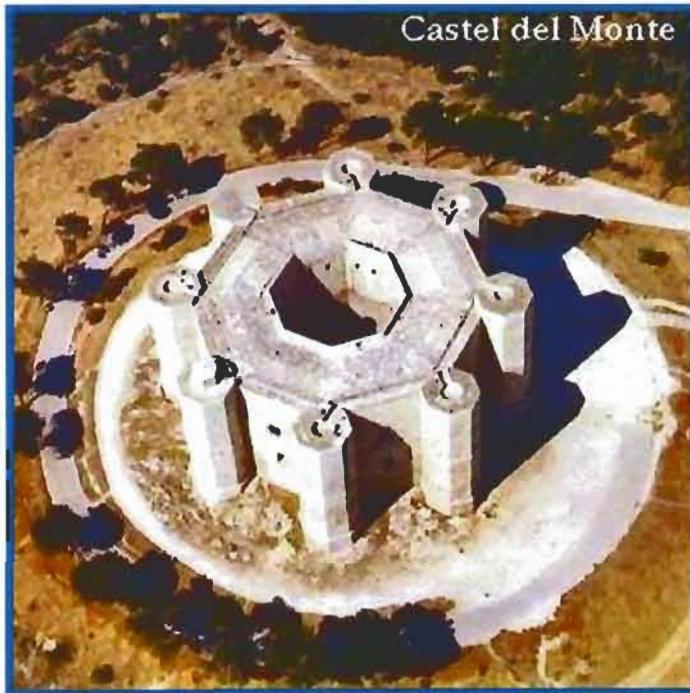
SCIPIO I GAETANI DELL'AQUILA D'ARAGONA Married Camilla Zurlo in 1544.

Titles 1528 – 1554:

- 8° Conte di Fondi
- 3° Duca di Traetto
- Lord of Piedimonte, Alife, and Gioia; and Montepeloso, Minervino, Mottole and Grottole.
- Prince of Altamura (title confiscated 1521, restored in 1528).

In 1534 the corsair Khair Ad Din, better known to us as Barbarossa or Red Beard, set sail from Istanbul with a fleet of 80 galleys and arrived on the Calabrian coast in July. He was acting in the capacity of the Admiral-in-Chief of the Ottoman Navy. Sailing north he attacked Gaeta, Villa Santa Lucia, and Sant'Isidoro. Landing at Fondi on the night of August 8th, he attempted to kidnap the ravishing Giulia Gonzaga, widow of Vespaisano Colonna who had held the duchy until 1525. Failing to achieve his objective, a massacre of the citizens of Fondi and Sperlonga ensued. He tried to continue the massacre at Itri but was defeated. Continuing north he attacked Terracina and Ostia on the River Tiber, close enough to Rome to cause not a minor degree of panic. Heading south he attacked the islands of Sardinia and Sicily.





Near Minervino is Castel del Monte, built in 1240 by Federico I, It has 8 sides, with 8 octagonal towers and 8 rooms on each floor.



LUIGI II GAETANI DELL'AQUILA D'ARAGONA Married twice (1) Lucrezia Orsini and (2) Cornelia Carafa, mother of Scipione II

Titles 1554 – 1613:

- Principe d'Altamura
- 4° Duca di Traetto
- 9° Conte di Fondi
- Lord of Piedimonte

Patrizio Napoletano. He sold off the Montepeloso fief. It was during his reign that Alife was destroyed by Filippo II in 1561 for the participation of the city's 'seigneur' Ferrante II Diaz Garlon in the murder of Filippo's sister.



SCIPIO II GAETANI DELL'AQUILA D'ARAGONA Married Girolama Bozzuto.

Titles 1613 – 1614:

- Principe d'Altamura
- 10° Conte di Fondi
- 5° Duca di Traetto
- Lord of Piedimonte

Was also a Patrizio Napoletano. Surviving his father by less than a year and there being no brothers, the inheritable titles went to his uncle ALFONSO, the younger brother of LUIGI II.

ALFONSO GAETANI DELL'AQUILA D'ARAGONA He married Giulia Carafa.

Titles:

- 24 October 1606: 1° Duca di Laurenzana (confirmed 9 March 1607).
- 1614 – 1624: Principe d'Altamura
- 1620 – 1624: Conte di Alife upon purchase.
- Patrizio Napoletano

Called “pretender” to the dukedom of Traetto, despite his being next-in-line of succession. In 1623 ALFONSO renounced his claim to the duchy of Traetto in exchange for the principato d'Altamura. This renunciation can be seen as confirmation of a possible earlier sale of the duchy to Duke Carafa of Stigliano, perhaps just before SCIPIO'S 1614 death.

FRANCESCO GAETANI DELL'AQUILA D'ARAGONA Married Diana di Capua in 1607.

Titles 1624 – 1625?:

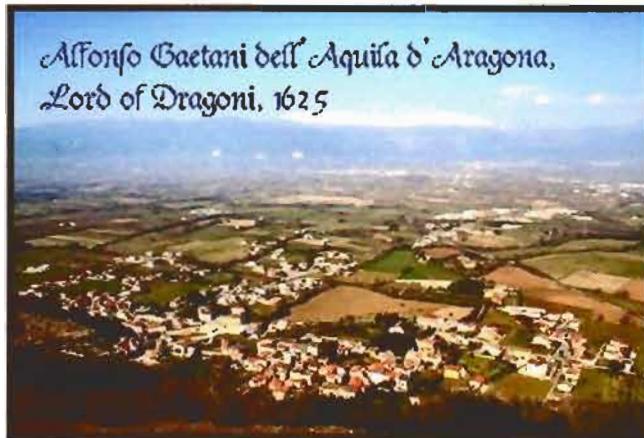
- 2° Duca di Laurenzana
- Conte di Alife
- Patrizio Napoletano.

ALFONSO GAETANI DELL'AQUILA D'ARAGONA Married Porzia Carafa in 1629.

Titles 1625 – 1644:

- 3° Duca di Laurenzana
- Conte di Alife
- Principe d'Altamura
- Lord of Piedimonte
- Lord of Gioia and Dragoni
- Patrizio Napoletano

In 1643 the duchy of Laurenzana was exchanged for the fief of Goia, but the title of Duke was retained by ALFONSO.



*Alfonso Gaetani dell'Aquila d'Aragona,
Lord of Dragoni, 1625*

FRANCESCO GAETANI DELL'AQUILA D'ARAGONA Died unmarried at the age of 20.

Titles 1644 – 1653:

- 4° Duca di Laurenzana
- Principe d'Altamura
- Conte di Alife
- Lord of Piedimonte
- Patrizio Napoletano

In 1651 he bought the fiefs of Ciorlano, Fossaceca, Capriati and Santa Maria dell'Oliveto. He was Captain of the Spanish Cavalry in 1650. Having no heirs at his death, the titles passed to his younger brother.

ANTONIO GAETANI DELL'AQUILA D'ARAGONA Married Cecilia d'Aragona in 1656.

Titles 1653 - 1710:

- 5° Duca di Laurenzana
- Principe d'Altamura
- Conte di Alife
- Lord of Piedimonte
- Lord of Gioia, Dragoni, Santa Maria dell'Oliveto, Fossaceca, Capriata and Ciorlano

He added to his titles with the purchase of Alvignano:

- Lord of Alvignano (1678 - 1710)
- Patrizio Napoletano

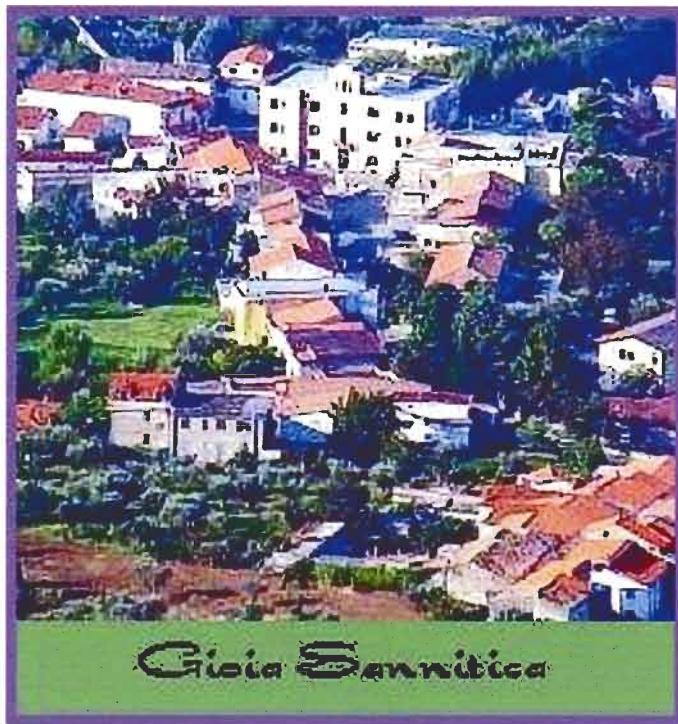


NICOLA II GAETANI DELL'AQUILA D'ARAGONA Married Aurora Sanseverino in 1686.

Titles 1710 - 1741:

- 6° Duca di Laurenzana
- Conte di Alife
- Lord of Piedimonte until 1715

- 1° Principe di Piedimonte (Sept 1715)
- Principe d'Altamura until selling it in 1715
- Lord of Gioia, Alvignano, Dragoni, Santa Maria dell'Oliveto, Fossaceca, Capriata and Ciorlano



- Grandee of Spain, First Class, bestowed 9 November 1725. Those in this class spoke to the king and received his reply with their heads covered; were addressed as Most Excellent Lord/Lady or His/Her Excellency; called "cousin" (*primo*) by the King.
- Patrizio Napoletano
- Gentleman of the Chamber of the Kingdom of Naples and Sicily, an office under the Gran Ciambellano (Grand Chamberlain) – master of the robes, captain of the porters, the usher of ambassadors, the chamberlain-in-ordinary, and the librarian and chief physician.
- Captain of the Army, 1706
- Field Marshall (highest military rank), 1707
- Counselor of State

On 2 September 1715 Piedimonte was raised to a principality. Nicola was also the author of two operas: *Gli Avvertimenti intorno alle passioni dell'Animo* (Napoli 1732) *Disciplina del caualier giovane diuisata in Tre Ragionamenti* (Napoli 1738).

GIUSEPPE ANTONIO GAETANI DELL'AQUILA D'ARAGONA Married Laura de Mari, 1742

Titles 1741 – 1782:

- 7° Duc di Laurenzana
- 2° Principe di Piedimonte
- Conte di Alife
- Lord of Gioia, Alvignano, Santa Maria dell'Oliveto, Fossaceca, Capriata and Ciorlano
- Patrizio Napoletano beginning 1766
- Gentleman of the Chamber of the Kingdom of Naples from 1740
- Captain, Royal Abruzzo regiment, 1743





It was during GIUSEPPE ANTONIO's rule that the Royal Palace at Caserta was built. It may look familiar, especially to Star Wars afficionados as it was used as Princess Leia's palace.

NICOLA III GAETANI DELL'AQUILA D'ARAGONA Married Teresa Saluzzo in 1770

Titles 1782 - 1801:

- 3° Principe di Piedimonte
- 8° Duc di Laurenzana
- Conte di Alife
- Lord of Gioia, Alvignano, Dragoni, Santa Maria dell'Oliveto, Fossaceca, Capriata & Ciorlano
- Patrizio Napoletano from 1796
- Patrizio di Benevento
- Patrizio Veneto
- Grandee of Spain, confirmed 1796
- Gentleman of the Chamber of the Kingdom of Naples from 1775
- Gran Protonotaro of the Kingdom of Naples



Gaeta (1761) - Docibilis I Gaetani, Consul of Gaeta, 867 C.E.

ONORATO IV GAETANI DELL'AQUILA D'ARAGONA Married Laura Serra, 1792

Titles 1801 - 1857:

- 4° Principe di Piedimonte
- 9° Duca di Laurenzana
- 4° Principe di Alife
- Conte di Alife
- Patrizio Napoletano, 1806
- Alfiere del reggimento (standard bearer for the regiment) "Real Ferdinando" 1779
- Consigliere di Stato, 1808
- Intendente (Supervisor) della provincia di Napoli, 1808
- Prefetto di Polizia (Chief of Police), 1808
- Scudiere (Squire) of the Queen of Due Sicilie, 1808, 1812
- Gran Maestro della Cerimonie, 1813
- Luogotenente (Lieutenant) nel Regno di Sicilia, 1837

ANTONIO GAETANI DELL'AQUILA D'ARAGONA Married Giovanna Mastrilli, 1824

Titles 1857 – 1863:

- 5° Principe di Piedimonte
- 10° Duca di Laurenzana
- 26° Conte di Alife
- Patrizio Napoletano
- Guardia del Corpo del Re Gioacchino Murat (Bodyguard of the King), 1815
- Gentiluomo di Camera (Gentleman of the Chamber), 1831
- Cavallerizzo della Regina delle Due Sicilie (Riding instructor of the Queen, Maria Theresa of Austria), 1858

Antonio's younger brother Raffaele is also listed as Duca di Laurenzana from Onorato's 1857 death to his own in 1874, however there is no numerical designation.

At the end of the 15th century ONORATA II DELL'AQUILA was the Lord of Alife, Piedimonte, Vallecorsa, San Lorenzo, Caivano, Castelforte, Dragone, and Cusano. These fiefdoms, with the exception of Alife and Piedimonte, do not appear in the GAETANI DELL'AQUILA D'ARAGONA line but, in fact, may have continued. Cusano actually refers to two places: Chiusano adjacent to Piedimonte Matese and now called Cusano Mutri and Pietraroscia which is next to Cusano Mutri and called Pietraroja. In 1401 they were fiefs of GOFFREDO MARZANO which were conferred upon ONORATA in 1439 by King Ferrante d'Aragona, by the time of ANTONIO, had split into Cusano Mutri and Pietraroja. Pietraroja is noted especially for its cured hams. In Alife is preserved a manuscript, dated 29 May 1776, with the title "Fornitura di prigiotta al duca di Laurenzana da Pietraroja" (Supply of hams to the duke of Laurenzana from Pietraroja). While by no means serving as evidence, it does indicate that what was once the feif of Cusano still existed and that there was a relationship of some type between the GAETANI DELL'AQUILA D'ARAGONA and that place at the end of the 18th century.

ONORATO V GAETANI DELL'AQUILA D'ARAGONA Married Antonia Castriota, 1853

Titles 1863 - 1904:

- 6° Principe di Piedimonte
- 11° Duca di Laurenzana
- 27° Conte di Alife
- Patrizio Napoletano

NICOLA IV GAETANI DELL'AQUILA D'ARAGONA Married Maria Moncada, 1880

Titles 1904 – 1924:

- 7° Principe di Piedimonte
- 12° Duca di Laurenzana
- 28° Conte di Alife
- Patrizio Napoletano
- Senatore del Regno d'Italia

The *Decreti Ministeriali* of 1915 recognized the three titles of nobility and further noted that, within these three, the rights to Gioia, Alvignano, Dragoni, Santa Maria dell'Oliveto, Fossaceca (now Fossacesia) on the Adriatic Coast in the province of Chieti in Abruzzo, Capriata and Ciorlano were included.

NICOLA'S daughter Antonia obtained a *Regie Lettere Patenti* (Royal Letter of Patent) on 21 June 1925 authorizing her to use her father's titles *ad personam* (personally), meaning hers were no longer inheritable but only to be held by her until her death in 1959. The next-in-succession in the male line was his nephew FILIPPO, son of his younger brother, who actually obtained the right to the Inheritable Titles on 7 May 1924 by Royal Decree, eighteen days before NICOLA'S death.



ANTONIA GAETANI DELL'AQUILA D'ARAGONA Married Giovanni de Risi, 1899

Titles 1925 – 1959:

- 13° Duchessa di Laurenzana
- 8° Principessa di Piedimonte
- Contessa di Alife

FILIPPO GAETANI DELL'AQUILA D'ARAGONA Married Isabella Gerini, 1923

Titles 1924 – 1967:

- 13° Duca di Laurenzana
- 8° Principe di Piedimonte
- 29° Conte di Alife
- Patrizio Napoletano

FILIPPO received the titles of his uncle NICOLA by Royal Decree on 7 May 1924, 18 days before his uncle died. He was confirmed in their ownership by *Regie Lettere Patenti* on 23 October 1924.

(preceding 3 titoli riconosciuti con del 1915, con i predicati di).

FERDINANDO GAETANI DELL'AQUILA D'ARAGONA Married Uzzano Greve, 1949

CURRENT TITLES from 1967:

- 14° DUCA DI LAURENZANA
- 9° PRINCIPE DI PIEDIMONTE
- 30° CONTE DI ALIFE
- PATRIZIO NAPOLETANO

There are two males next in the line of succession, son and grandson of Ferdinando. Three possible scenarios are known to exist concerning Inheritable Titles. It is not known if any of the Royal Patents conferring the various titles contain a proscription barring the title to a divorcee or if such a proscription would be considered legal today. The three scenarios are:

1. Divorce does not affect Inheritable Titles: the succession will follow immediately upon the death of FERDINANDO to BONIFACIO.
2. Divorce disqualifies the Heir-Apparent from holding Inheritable Titles, but NOT his heirs: the succession will follow immediately upon the death of FERDINANDO to GIOVANNI, son of BONIFACIO.
3. Divorce disqualifies the Heir-Apparent and his heirs from holding Inheritable Titles: This scenario will present the most difficult one to settle as determining the next-in-line-of-succession in the male line entails going back to a preceding generation to determine who is next-in-line. However, how far back can present a problem: does BONIFACIO have a younger brother? Or would an uncle of BONIFACIO, a younger brother of FERDINANDO, be next-in-line, if the eldest male heir of FERDINANDO is disqualified?

BONIFACIO GAETANI DELL'AQUILA D'ARAGONA

Married Vittoria Amati, 1972; Divorced, 1980

Current title: Heir Apparent

- Patrizio Napoletano.

GIOVANNI GAETANI DELL'AQUILA D'ARAGONA (born 2 May 1973)

Current title: Heir Apparent

- Patrizio Napoletano

Gaetani family members remain active in government and in the affairs of Piedimonte Matese. Members are noteworthy for endeavors other than those pertaining to nobility, like the already-noted, opera-writer, NICOLA II and

MICHELANGELO GAETANI (1804 – 1882): sculptor, appointed by King Vittorio Emanuele II to the Knights of the Most Holy Annunciation, which is bestowed upon high ranking generals only; recognized expert on Dante Alighieri.

ONORATO GAETANI (1842 – 1917): Son of Michaelangelo; 14° Duke of Sermoneta, Senator of the Kingdom, President of the Italian Geographic Society, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Mayor of Rome in the 1930s and three of his children:

LEONE GAETANI (1869 – 1935): 3° Duca di Rocca Mandolfi and Marques of Matino; renowned expert on Islam, publishing the 10-volume Annali dell'Islam beginning in 1905; moved to Victoria, British Columbia, Canada in 1921.

LIVIO GAETANI (1873 – 19??): Minister Plenipotentiary, fell during the 1915/18 war, decorated with the Military Medal for Valor in China during the Boxer Rebellion in the early 20th century.

GÉLASIO GAETANI (1877 - : mining engineer, U.S. ambassador, decorated with the Knight of the Grand Cross of the Military Order of Savoy.

Most of this book is set in the Middle Ages. Well, actually it's from prehistory to the first years of the 20th century, a somewhat longer period of time. The "Middle Ages" spanned about a millennium and is usually pegged at starting in 500 C.E. This period is also named the Medieval (or Mediaeval) period, which means the same thing – a contraction of the Latin *medium aevum*

Prehistory

Now there's a mind-boggling concept. Is there really such a beast? What came before history? How could anything come before history when everything before this second is historical? And wouldn't it still be historical? No, it's prehistorical! Think Fred & Wilma. Pretty hysterical, if not historical, if you want my opinion (and even if you don't).

or middle epoch – but it sounds more high-brow – no one has a medieval-spread, only a middle-age spread. This manner of dividing time into identifiable periods is just the one currently in vogue – it replaced that of the Six Ages (which had *seven* ages) and that of the **Four Monarchs** (which had *five* monarchies) – as the human species evolved, their ability to count, correctly, on their fingers definitely improved!

In an over-the-top simplification, Europe was split into principalities called *feudatories*. These feudatories can be organized (somewhat) by size:

- Small ~ townships and small counties of our time;
- Medium ~ think large county to small state; and
- Large ~ medium & large states, small countries.

You will find counties larger than duchies and so on. Someone would buy a parcel of land; they were often called "grants" when made by the King/Queen. A grant was usually hereditary but some ended when the grantee died; in other words, you did something *good*, not *great*, but *good*.

Often these large tracts were, as mentioned, purchased outright from the owner just as is done today. Except when you buy your house today, it doesn't come with the *slaves*... the *peasants*... the *vassals* to do your laundry; then it did. You owned them; they couldn't marry without your approval; they couldn't move away; they did what you told them to do (for the most part). In return you made their homes safe from an aggressive neighbor and wild beasts and bandits and all sorts of scary things – you built walls and castles and forts (sometimes with the all-important magical egg) and paid for an army; provided a rudimentary education and very rudimentary health care. It was a symbiotic relationship in which everyone profited when all ran smoothly – the vassals were safe, fed and healthy; the owners got wealthier which meant better education and healthcare and an overall improvement in the quality of life. Why? Because happy peasants are productive peasants! The concepts that run businesses today are not new at all.

When there were multiple chunks of land then the kid that Mom & Dad liked best would get everything and the others would lose out. Or... these chunks would be parceled out among the offspring; some went with the girls as part of their *dowry* which was basically a bribe to her husband for the grief she was sure to bring; some were wedding gifts – like putting down the down-payment for a house for the newlyweds, but on a much larger scale.

These parcels of land were called fiefs or feudal estates or (and this was a new one for me) fees; and for a change of sound, they were also called lordships. The owner was the land lord or feudatory (*noun*). With ownership came membership in the "landed gentry" which had a lot of nifty benefits attached (like voting privileges) and a really cool title: Lord or Lady. The peasants (*paissons* in Italian) owed some sort of allegiance, or *fealty*, to his or her lord for their

good care and often this was paid by military service, by handing over a part of the crops you grew or spending a certain number of days working in the fields of the fief that the land lord owned and cultivated. These were the feudatory (*adj*) fees (not the fees from above) the lord received as compensation.

So your land lord provides protection from outside attackers. Who would attack your lord and why? Some neighbor or, well, basically just about anyone that had the resources to mount an attack. Why? 'Cause he's a jerk in someone's mind. But, just as the fief you're living on is a family concern, so is Barney's fief down the street. Which means this is an argument between families. Guess what word is reserved for fights between families? *Feud*. And family feuds tend to be nastier (which, as you now see, was an apropos name for the game show pitting one family against another). So you can now rest easier with the knowledge that any feuds you may have thought you had with someone no longer exist (unless it was with someone AND their relatives).

Well now that a zillion lords are running amuck (lordy, lordy, lordy!) how do you go about separating the big (as in great, not fat) lords from the small, or petty, ones? One way is by the size of the parcel owned – was it big? A county. Bigger? A duchy. Even larger? A

marquisate. **Bigest**? Principality. **Biggerest**? Kingdom. **Bigestest**? Empire.

What happens when size doesn't matter, but the owner did something for you that was just really, really nifty? That's one of those perqs that Kings like to show off – even small tracts can be elevated to a county or a duchy. Even whole Kingdoms can be small: Monaco? TINY.

There were others benefices to be had that gave the holder a greater amount of power, prestige and income. The post of captaincy for every town was filled by the *captain* who saw to all aspects of smooth running of the town - courts, jails, taxes and so on. Each town usually had a castle associated with it and the post equivalent to the captaincy was the castellany which was filled by the *castellan*. While the castle and the men quartered there offered protection to the town, it also afforded access to and by the royal armies in times of civil unrest. The posts were separate by design and need.

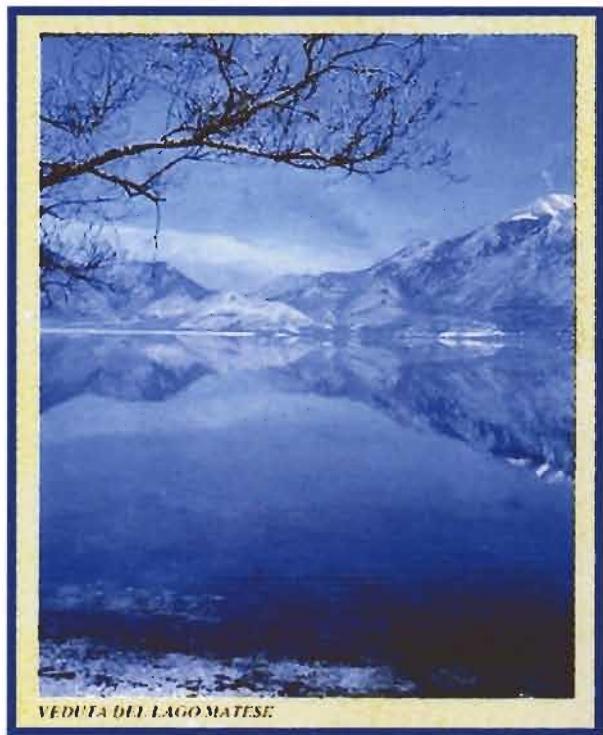
There were royal officials for each province; a royal judiciary existed alongside the baronial courts, the provincial courts and the town courts. Crimes and civil lawsuits had to be heard in the court having jurisdiction and many judges were reticent to turn away cases and the fees that went along with them. Unfortunately, multiple layers of bureaucracy led to overlapping areas of authority with acrimonious results that could take years to sort out. Very similar to the system(s) operating in the United States today. **Red tape** is not a recent invention either.

Read pages 310 to 354 in your text and hand in your completed study guides on Monday. Have a good weekend.

Tonight's extra-credit question to keep you awake is:

Why doesn't a Queen rule a "Queendom"?

(Or does she and we're just too lazy to use the correct word?)



VEDUTA DEL LAGO MATESE

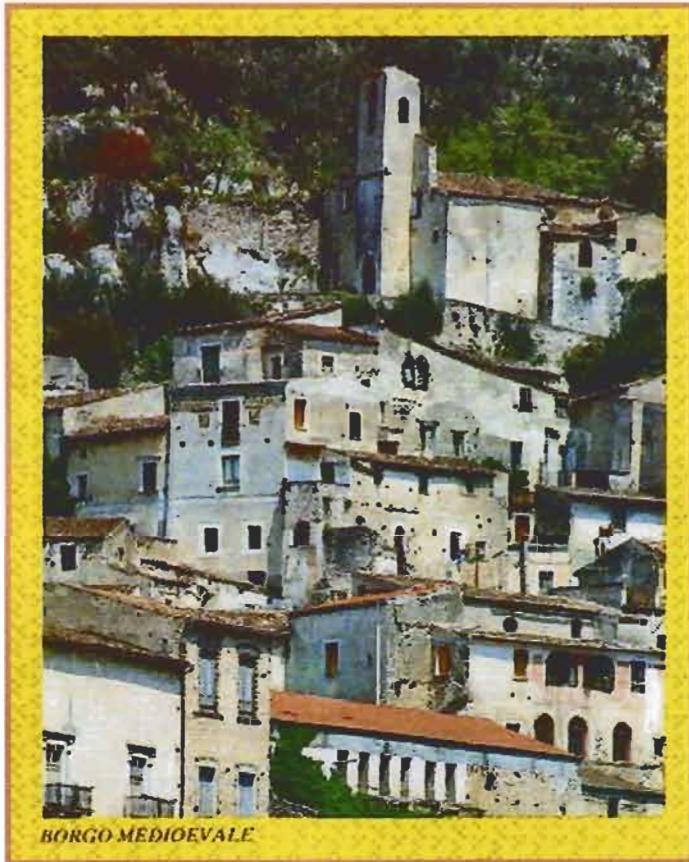
Heading north from Caserta one runs into the immense Alife plain which is traversed, east-to-west, by the Volturno River which has provided a natural boundary of sorts and has been the site of many battles. To the north of the river is Alife, a town that grew in prominence from 1000 to 1800 C.E., but has suffered earthquakes, fires and sieges that has reduced its import significantly over the last 2 centuries. Continuing north from Alife leads one into the foothills of the southern Apennines, the “spine” of the Apennine, or Italian, Peninsula and into the lands controlled by the GAETANI DELL'AQUILA D'ARAGONA and ancestral home to the MADDALENA family for at least 300 years. At about 4,000 feet in elevation you will find the Lago Matese, the source of the Fiume Torano which courses through the Valle del Torano and through Piedimonte Matese. An ancient road leading up to the lake on the Matese plateau was protected by a Norman castle erected around

1000 C.E. This structure marks the beginnings of the recorded history of Piedimonte d'Alife and Castello d'Alife. The plateau has been a strategically important site since the medieval period for the defense of the southern portion of the Italian Peninsula.

Piedimonte Antica, the oldest part of the town was located higher on the slope of Monte Cila to the west of the castle between it and the *Chiesa di San Giovanni*. The early castle was square, being set in such a way that, when viewed from above, it looked diamond-shaped with the northern-most corner embedded in the mountain. Three square towers were at the east, south and west corners, being built outside the main square of the design. Now, three mountains serve as a dramatic backdrop to the older part of the town: Monte Cila to the west, the *Terrazzo Castello* upon which Castello Matese is situated and Monte Muto to the east. The need for the castle in Piedimonte was less after another was built at a higher elevation. A small plateau on the central mountain, the *Terrazzo Castello*, once had the 5-towered Castello d'Alife. Piedimonte became the home of the Dukes of Alife with their fortified palazzo below and castle above.



Chiesa di San Giovanni



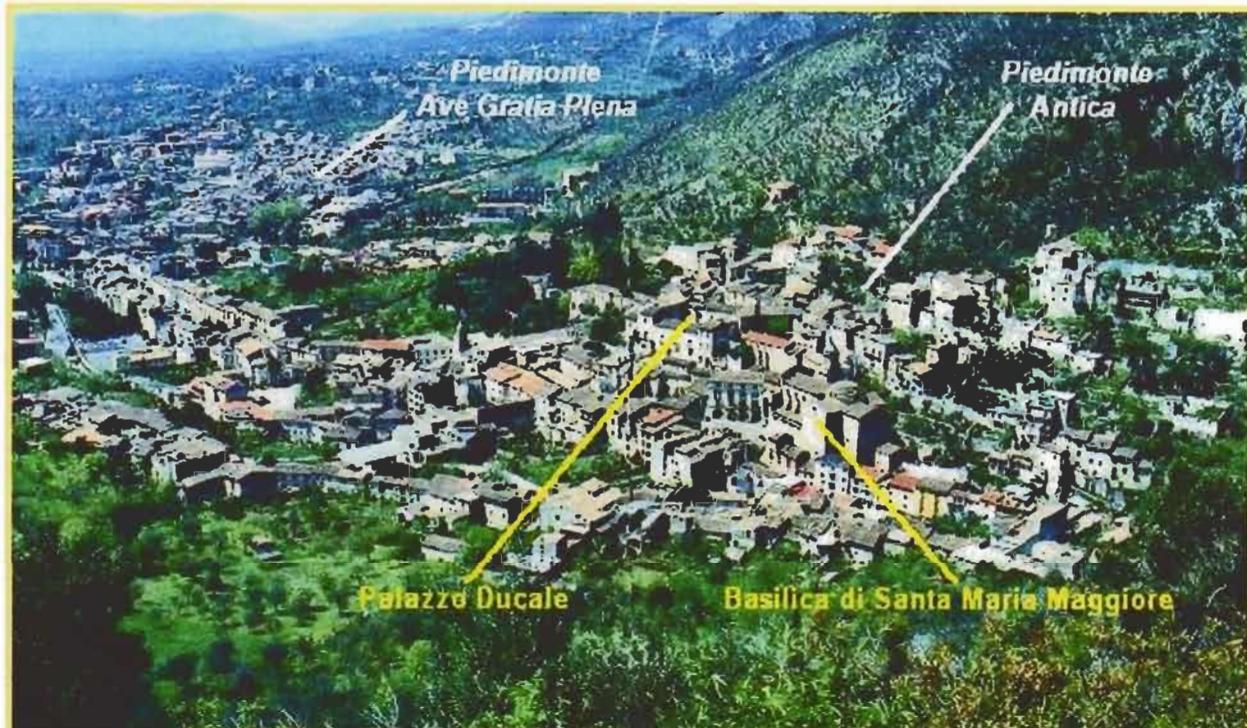
There is evidence of a village here 35 centuries ago that traded with the Greeks and Etruscans through the copper and bronze ages. At least one Roman temple to Diana existed which was later torn down and replaced with the *Chiesa di San Domenica*. One of the capitals of a temple column sits at the base of *la scala* (the stairs) in Piazza San Domenica.

The area now covered by the town is the result of the growth and combination of at least four distinct villages: *Piedimonte Antica*, *Piedimonte de la Vallata* (of the valley) and the *borgata Seppiciano* are three known by name. This area was controlled by the *Longobardos* for centuries, which is evidenced by the fair skin, reddish hair and blue eyes found in some people of the area, evidently including our own Giuseppe Maddalena.

The GAETANI DELL'AQUILA, a Neapolitan branch of the GAETANI family, may have become the feudal

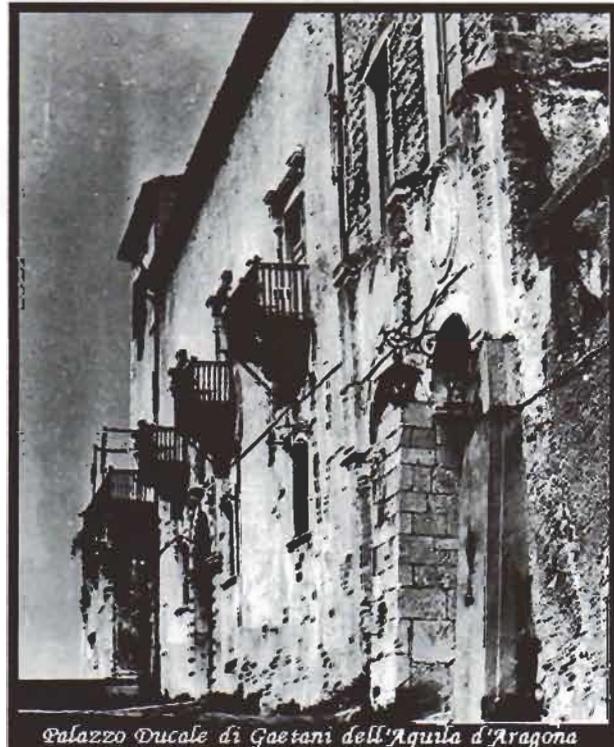
lords as early as 1383; however, from the sources uncovered to date, it seems more likely they became lords about 20 years later. CRISTOFARO II GAETANI DELL'AQUILA, lord of Piedimonte, was killed in the siege of Naples, fighting for ALFONSO I D'ARAGONA during October 1439. It is known that the castle was plundered by baronial armies in 1460 due to the support given by ONORATA II DELL'AQUILA to KING FERDINANDO I D'ARAGONA. ONORATA was rewarded with the right to add D'ARAGONA to the surname in 1466. The earliest extant records are the feudal lord tithes of 1481. The castle served as a refuge for the royal family of KING FERRENTE I D'ARAGONA during the 1485 Revolt of the Barons when ONORATA III GAETANI DELL'AQUILA D'ARAGONA remained the only royal supporter among the barons. QUEEN GIOVANNA D'ARAGONA and their two children, Giovanna, 7 years old, and Carlo, 5 years old, were certainly guests; it is not known if any children by the King's first marriage or any by his mistresses were





there. The **ducal palace** was built in the renaissance-style of the 1700s after a spectacular fire had gutted the old castle. The palace courtyard has a fountain with four eagles, symbol of the **GAETANI**. French revolutionaries chopped the heads off of the eagles in 1799 during the short-lived Parthenope Republic and they have remained headless ever since. There is a room under the palace which held large blocks of ice that were brought in from Lago Matese by the peasants, and stored there throughout the hot summer months. The dukes had a monopoly on ice and this room is a remnant of one of their ways to make money. The palace also has its own dungeon. The **palazzo** is now used for special events and retains much of its Renaissance splendor. The **GAETANI** still own the ducal palace, and several other properties, and the *tres Principesses di Alife*, who reside in Rome, are the “current owners” of the **palazzo** despite there still being a *duca di Alife* very-much alive.

The main industry was in cloth: wool, linen and cotton. Many of our female ancestors were *filatrice di lana* or wool spinners. **GIOACCHINO MURAT** brought the first wool “factory” or *cotonificio* to the Kingdom when the industrialist **Johan Jackob Egg/Berner** from Ellikon, Switzerland was enticed to build his factory in the town in 1813. It employed hundreds of residents and operated for over a century before being destroyed by the Nazi military during their forced retreat from the area in the mid-1940s during World War II.



Palazzo Ducale di Gaetani dell'Aquila d'Aragona



Ducal Palace Gaetani d'Aragona
Piedimonte Matese (CE)

On 23 December 1730 the village received a town charter from CARLO VI HABSBURG, King of Naples, granting it certain privileges such as holding a weekly market. Shortly thereafter, independence from Austria for the Kingdom was won by Carlos III de Borbón. The town hosted the victor on 16 April 1734, who had been crowned as CARLO VII BORBÓN, King of Naples. NICOLO GAETANI, head of the feudalists of the realm, paid homage to him for restoring independence. Just over a hundred years later, on 17 April 1841, FERDINAND II DI BORBONE was a guest while visiting the factories of the town. At that time the town claimed some 5,000 residents, as large as the

capital city of Caserta. During the Risorgimento in 1859-60 the men of the town that favored unification fled into the Valle di Torano and helped Garibaldi in his efforts to overthrow the monarchy though the ducal family remained Borbonists.

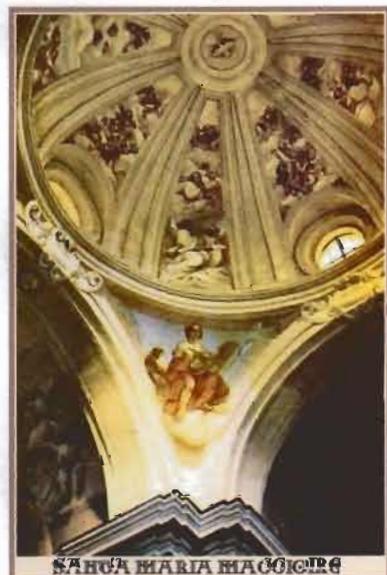
There are two Roman Catholic parishes: *Santa Maria Maggiore* and *Ave Gratia Plena* (With Plain Grace) sometimes named as *Santa Maria Annunziata*. Each parish has many

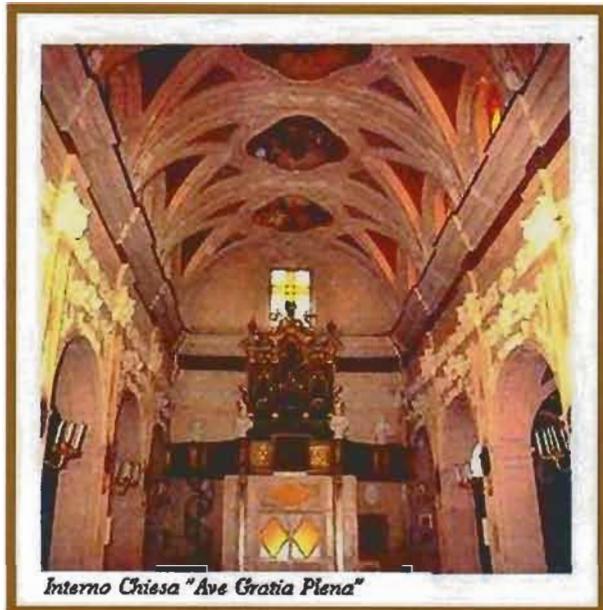
churches and there are about 20 in the town all together. The *Basilicata di Santa Maria Maggiore* was consecrated in the 17th century, but the structure is much older. Many of its frescoes are from the 15th and 16th centuries while the façade dates to the 18th century. Our MADDALENA family worshipped here. *Ave Gratia Plena* dates from the 17th century though the congregation is probably older. Our DI MUCCIO, PALUMBO and IACUZIO ancestors were congregants here. *Ave Gratia Plena* is in the section of *Piedimonte de la Vallata* section.

La Chiesa di San Rocco, one of the churches in *Santa Maria Maggiore* parish is a tiny chapel with a reclining Jesus and a cross with items significant to the crucifixion attached: ladder for soldiers, hammer, nails, rope, lanterns, etc. Prior to 1810, parishioners were



Il portale di Chiesa Ave Gratia Plena, 17th century





Interno Chiesa "Ave Gratia Plena"

buried beneath the floor of the chapel and this may have included our ancestor NICOLA MADDALENA.

The town suffered heavy damage during World War II. It was bombed by Allied forces as Germans had control and were using the mills to turn out much needed uniforms for the soldiers. Many of the bombed out buildings still stand as empty shells. One small bombed out church was being used as a hen house on my visit there. It was quite remarkable to see the interior walls with their 14th century frescoes being used as the backs of chicken coops. The owner offered to tear out part of a fresco for me as a souvenir, an offer I respectfully declined, though I know the frescoes will continue to deteriorate. One of my great-aunts, CONCETTA

MADDALENA, was killed in one of the bombings of nearby Alife in 1943. When the Nazis were forced to retreat, they destroyed the factories and the **fabric industry which was never rebuilt**.

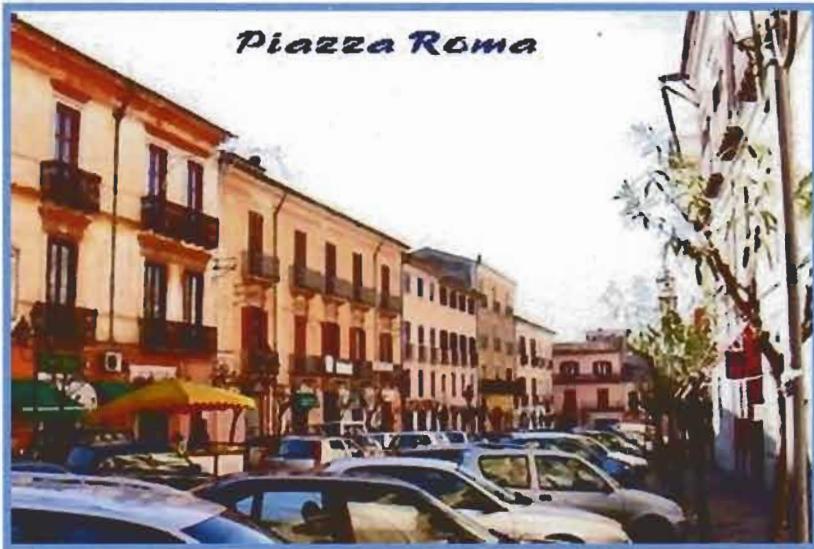
In the decades of the 1950's and '60's, the **area moved into the 20th century**. A long stairway had connected Piedimonte with Castello over which the merchants of each town would proceed with their laden mules to sell their goods. Castello produced cheese and wool. This was finally paved and now the **road, Via San Giovanni**, connects the two towns. Along the Torano river is a natural alcove in which was built a **clothes washing area**. The force of the river filled the stone washing trough which was used until the 1960's! In fact, the **flow of the river is evident throughout Piedimonte as numerous fountains and wells operate solely by this force**, no pumps being necessary. The **river ran openly through the center of town until recent times when it was thought its course would make a great street cutting through town**. The **river was covered and paved and now, to see this river, one has to travel to the extreme limits of the town before encountering it again, uncovered and running freely, as it once did through the town**.

Named after the **nearby town of Alife**, the "foothills of Alife" and the "Castle of Alife" settled on a change of name in the 1970 to more accurately reflect their importance. Piedimonte Matese and Castello Matese now remind the inhabitants of their strategic importance in protecting the Matese plateau and reflect the decline of the once-beautiful Alife.

Having stayed in a hotel on Piazza Roma, a plaza that my great-grandfather GIUSEPPE MADDALENA walked every day, and seeing the houses my ancestors lived in was a

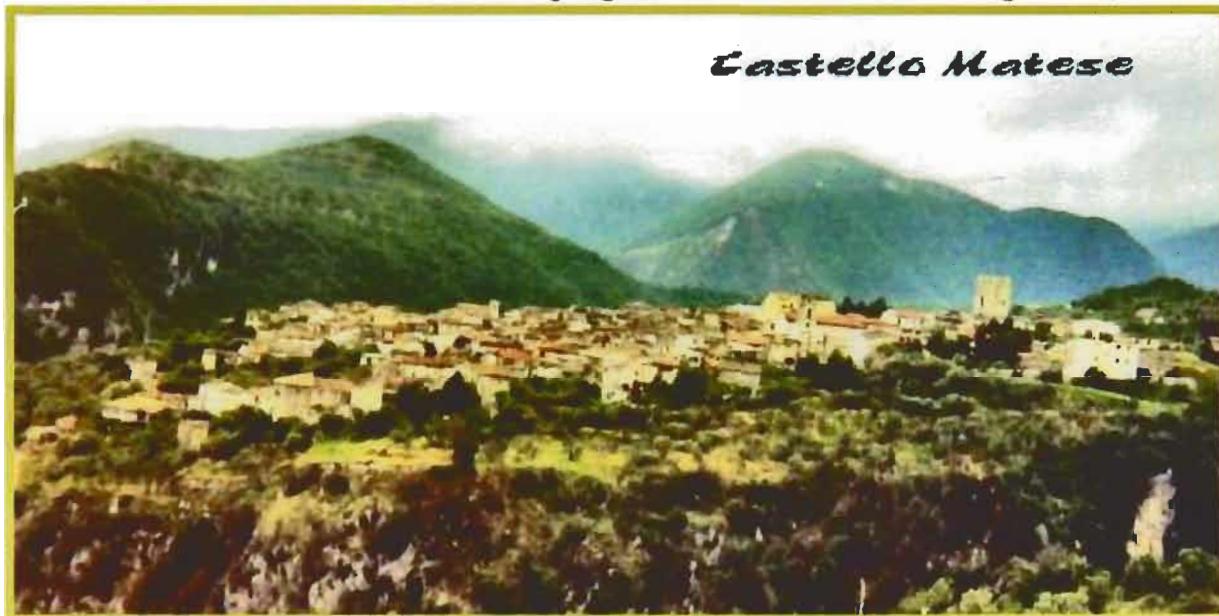


Piedimonte Antica



may be related by marriage through the DiMUCCIO family, that the third floor is the "new" one, being added in the 1700's and 1800's!

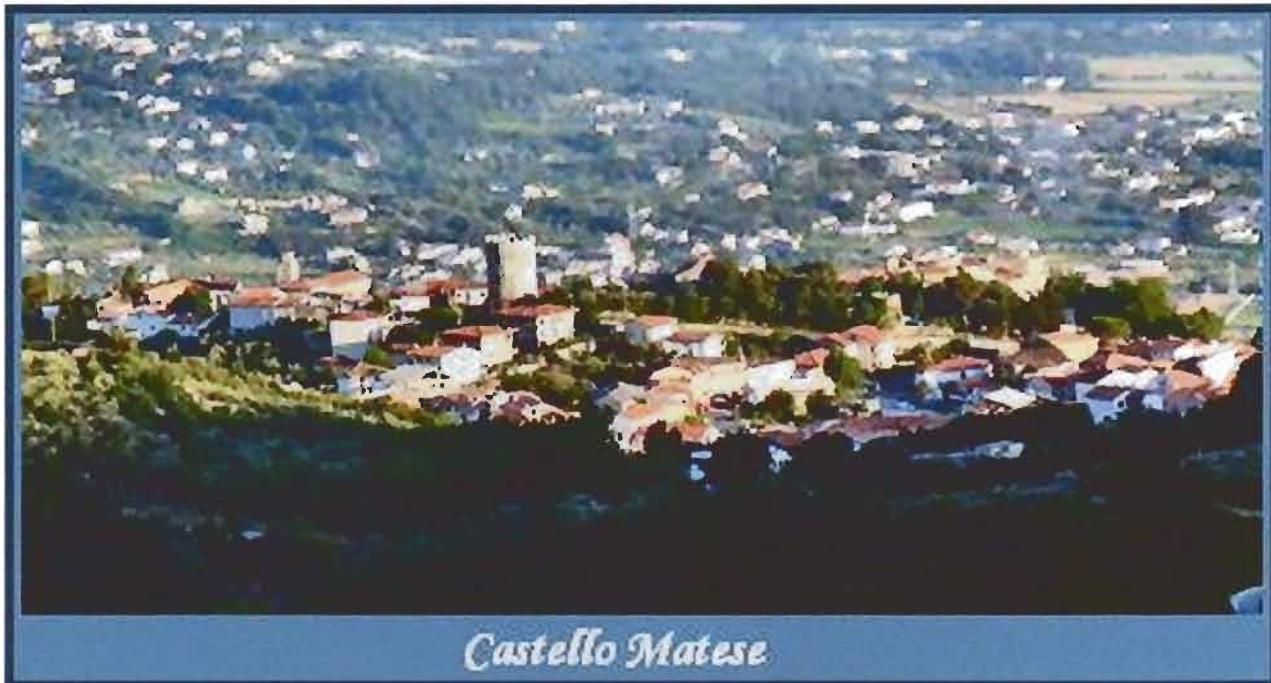
The pace of life is much slower here, no movie theaters, no shopping centers. The train consists of a single car. People mostly visit with each other or out in the piazzas. The time spent with my hoped-for distant cousins, Vincenzo and Teresia DiMUCCIO, of nearby Santa Pottito Sannitico, was most enjoyable. Teresia was always cooking some wonderful dinner with many courses, and Vincenzo pouring his home made wine from gallon jugs. A party at their "country" home with over 30 relatives, consisted of lasagna, chicken, pork and beef roasts, "dolce" for dessert, chestnuts roasted and hung on ropes, mozzarella cheese and sausages, home baked bread, lots of wine, and fennel bulbs to help digestion. We all sat around a single table, 32 of us,



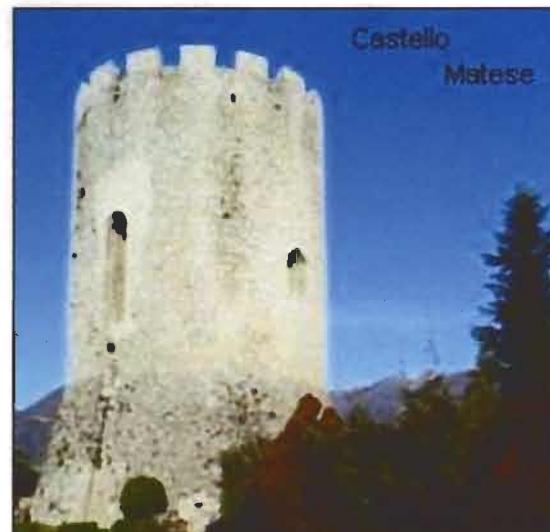
that was supported by 3 enormous tree trunks! Overhead was a light fixture that was plugged into a series of extension cords that ran for almost a mile through the fields to the home of one of Vincenzo's sons! The "women-folk" (Vincenzo's choice of words) had been at the country house since 5:30 AM preparing for this special dinner in a wood-burning oven! These "women-folk" were accomplished in their own right, one a pharmacist, another a teacher; yet they

wonderful experience. To this day, the piazza is host to a weekly market as it has been for hundreds of years. The town walls are intact and many of the apartment-like buildings date from the 14th and 15th centuries with their Gothic windows. The first floor would have originally been an open archway in which a merchant would set up shop. He usually lived overhead on the second floor. I was informed while there, by two marvelous sisters, Carmen and Marisa, who

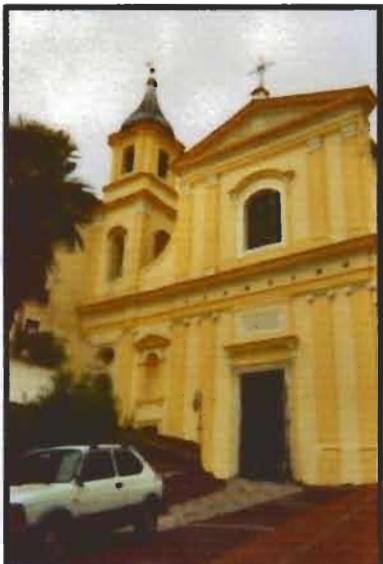
surprised me with their hearty acceptance of both the designation and the tasks. It seems the prevalent, if unspoken, thought is that only the stronger sex could manage a feat such as this and the suggestion that a male should help was met with universal laughter and many comments referring to the timeliness and tastiness to be expected if one were to allow the weaker male a hand in the kitchen.



Castello d'Alife was, historically, a section of Piedimonte d'Alife until being separated administratively in 1752. In 1801 it adopted the name Castello di Piedimonte which was subsequently changed to Castello d'Alife. In 1970 the name was again changed, to the current Castello Matese.



The arms of Piedimonte Matese show Monte Cila, Terrazzo Castello and Monte Muto that serve as a dramatic backdrop for the town and has the ducal crown to demonstrate its importance in the realm.



**Basilica di Santa Maria Maggiore
Piedimonte Matese**



Piedimonte Matese, Chiesa di San Rocco "Crucifixion cross"



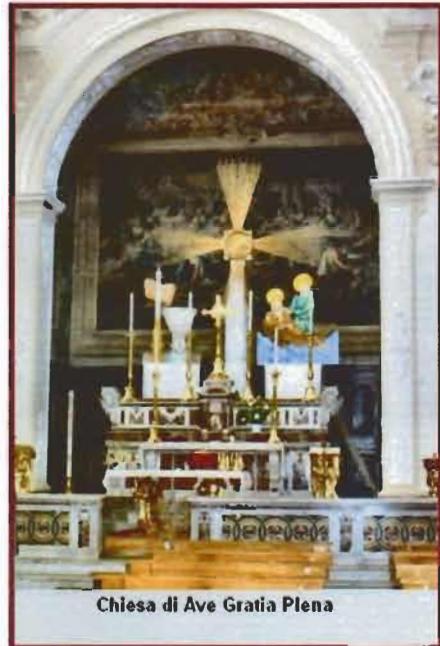
Chiesa di Ave Gratia Plena, Piedimonte Matese



Chiesa di San Nicola, Piedimonte Matese
Nicola Maddalena buried inside, 1786



Chiesa di San Cossimo e San Damiano, Castello Matese
(Borgo of Piedimonte d'Alife until 1752)

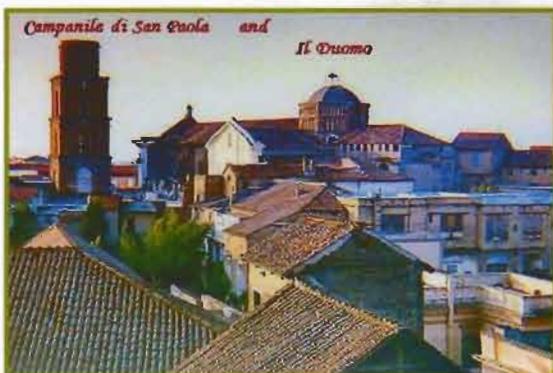


Chiesa di Ave Gratia Plena



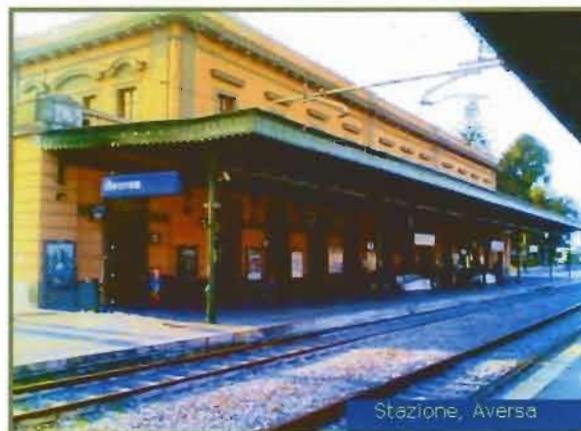
AVERSA

Aversa was founded as a religious center and was the Papal "eye" into the Bourbon controlled Kingdom of Naples. Removed far enough from Naples, the Pope exerted full control in the area. The town has an extraordinary number of churches, the cattedrale di San Paolo and a basilica (*duomo*). Apparently the actual number is not known even to this day as the website of the city gives the number as being "rumored to be over a hundred." The city neighborhoods were identified by their respective churches, hence, *borgo San Domenica*. These neighborhoods may only encompass the few blocks that bordered the church



as the churches were a short distance apart. Likewise, streets are named for the church found on them and most have retained that name, with some exceptions, to this day. Not a usual tourist destination, one must be able to speak Italian to get by as very few older people understand English. Near the railroad station (Stazioni) was the one hotel and, in it, the one "good" restaurant. Smaller sandwich shops were around.

Building ships in the rebuilt arsenal at Naples started in earnest after ALFONSO I was



Stazione, Aversa

crowned in 1442. Being the monarch of the seafaring Aragonese kingdom demanded the resuscitation of the defunct arsenal now that the kingdom was part of an empire. A second arsenal was built on the Adriatic at Trani. Some of the wood for the Naples arsenal came from Calabria and Basilicata but the major source was the forests of the Terra di Lavoro. Certain towns of the province, including Aversa, were required by Royal decree, to make available their carts and draught animals for hauling the wood. This renaissance as a naval power lasted only as long as the monarch did.

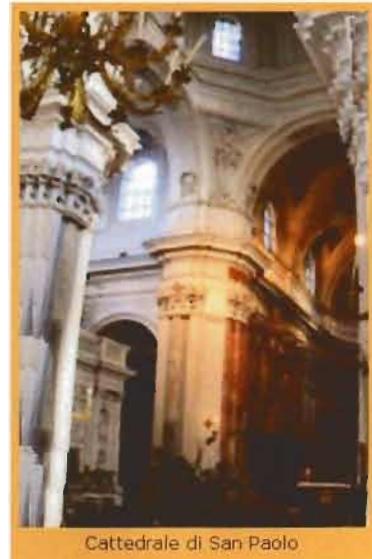
Each of the churches toured offered their own unique ambiance. *San Audeno*, the church of our D'ANGELO and DELLA VOLPE ancestors, was destroyed by an earthquake in 1934. It is thought that some of the surviving relics of that church, as well as the parish seat, were moved to the *Chiesa Trinita*, which, interestingly, only bears the name of *San Audeno* parish on the outside. The remains of *San Audeno* place its construction in the Gothic period. The rectory has

been abandoned and the attached monastery has been turned into a cow barn, in the middle of town, much to the consternation of the neighbors!

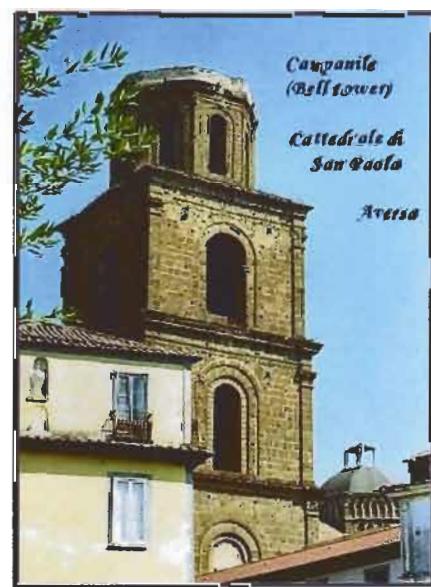
The *Chiesa di San Nicola* has recently been **restored** to its Renaissance "make over" of the 1700's. Built much earlier, this church served our SACCO and CECARA ancestors. A portion of the 13th century fresco behind the alter remains and the pointed arch windows and arches belie Gothic origins.



One of the most fascinating churches in Aversa is *San Francesco*. Originally serving the cloistered nuns of *Convento di San Francesco*, the locals soon started attending it regularly. The interior is a complex, intricate design of inlaid woods and semi-precious stones such as lapis. It was built so the nuns could attend mass, and receive communion, without ever being seen. The lattice work at the upper limits of the walls concealed the nuns while they watched mass. Behind the altar was a small door through which the priest would extend his arm, offering communion. Their choir loft, a large room at the back of the church on the second floor, allowed their songs and chants to permeate the building. Over the past two decades, the current pastor, Don Pasquale, has helped to restore the church. One favorite story of his involves the mysterious "recessed" 13th century fresco in the cloisters. The walls were white and there was a framed fresco, recessed about one inch. Don Pasquale knew this was not a usual technique of this period and investigated further to



Cattedrale di San Paolo.





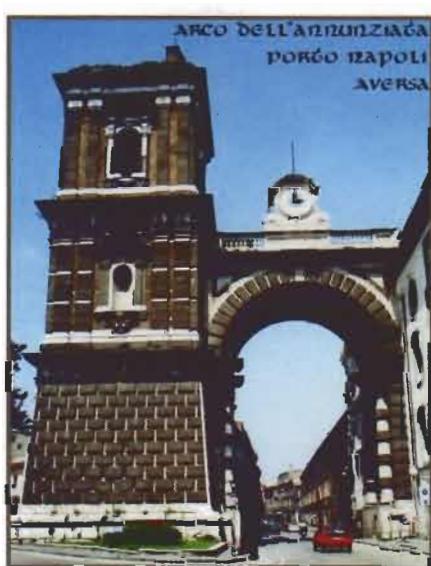
century! It is a truly amazing find. Besides the notable artwork, the convent had a peculiar way of disposing of their **deceased sisters**. In a subterranean room, lined with cement chairs with holes in the middle of the seat, the deceased would be placed with arms outstretched to dry out over a two year period. At the end of this period, the remains would be placed in a large pit at the end of the room over which was a large fresco, now barely visible, of a crucifix. While no longer used, the remains have been left untouched - a truly eerie place!

Two other notable structures are the *Porta Napoli* and the *Castello d'Aragona*. The castel originally functioned as the residence of the monarchy when in town and as the location for the judiciary department of the monarch. Today it continues to function in government as the *Accademie Polizia*.

The *Porta Napoli* or *Arco dell'annunziata* is the symbol of the city. The main door of the *Chiesa della 'Annunziata* is connected to the bell tower, or **campanile**, of the church by the arch. Rebuilt after collapsing, perhaps in the same terremoto that destroyed *San Audeno*, the campanile has outstanding Baroque flourishes while the base contains impressive bugnato stonework.

The town is now home to a large number of schools, including three universities. The *Second University of Naples* maintains their architecture and engineering faculties here. Much of the town was destroyed in the 1934 earthquake. It appears that the most heavily damaged areas were built in the 1700's and 1800's (the new part), with much older sections surviving. On 23 July 1930 an earthquake hit Ariano, in Campania, killing 1,400-1,500. The most severe damage was centered in the Ariano-Melfi area in the provinces of Avellino, Potenza and Foggia. The quake was felt over an area stretching from the Po Valley in the north and Catanzaro

find out that it was only a portion of a much larger work. More surprisingly he discovered the white walls were not walls at all, but a one inch deep layer of lime! During the years of pestilence and plague, the nuns would be lined up against the walls and lime would be thrown all over them. Over the centuries, the walls became covered and only the section of the fresco deemed important was kept uncovered. Removing the lime revealed an entire wall of 13th century frescoes and, even more exciting, a passageway revealed some from the 11th





This unnamed church is but one of many examples of the stunning architecture around the town that are easy to overlook as the town has a depressed “industrial” quality to it.

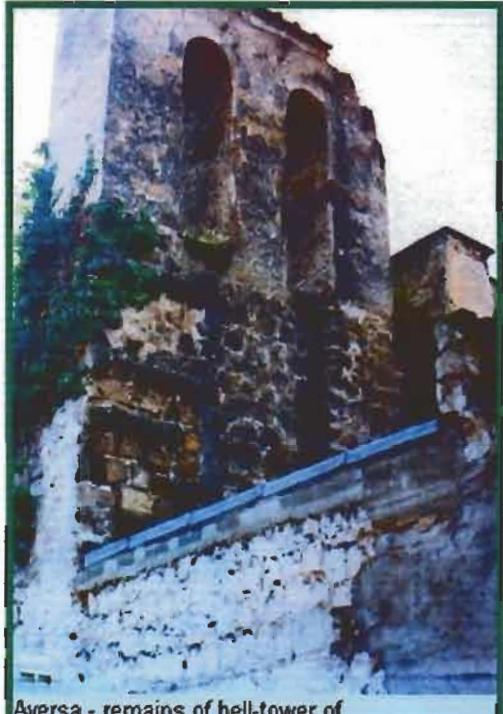
active in local politics (as I gathered after sighting an election poster), and lucky-for-me, well-liked.

Another copy of the stemma or coat-of-arms, our municipal seal, for Aversa is shown which is clearer. The strange creature pictured has its origins in mythology and is called a basileogeus or something close to that, whose origin I have yet to uncover.

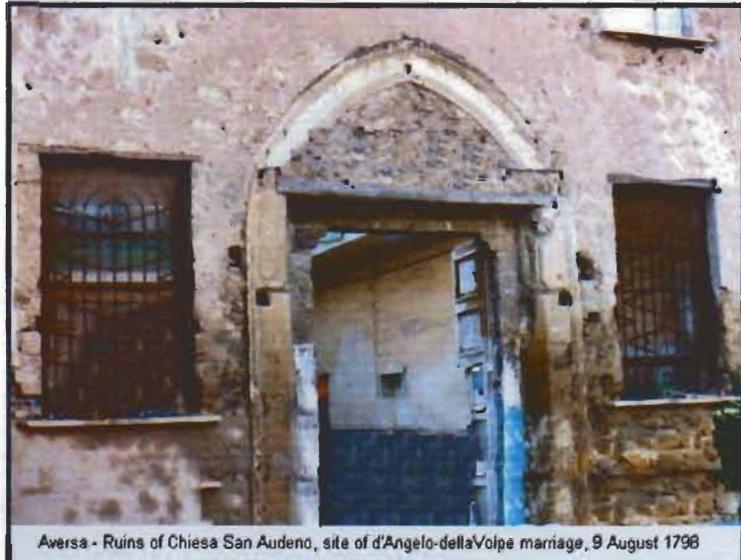


and Lecce provinces to the south. The earthquake also included the sighting of “earthquake lights.”

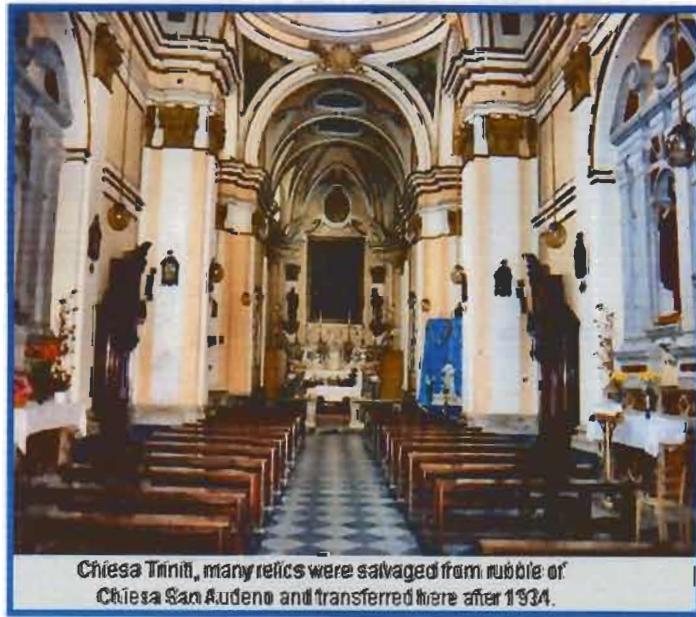
The inhabitants are helpful, though suspicious, a common trait in the area where suspicion and distrust abound. By accident, while attempting to explain my interest in Aversa with my poor command of Italian, I happened upon the key that unlocked several closed doors. I mentioned my ancestral lines originating in Aversa: SACCO and CECARA, D’ANGELO and DELLA VOLPE what did I say? A sudden commotion ensued and I was greeted with big smiles, warm handshakes and pats-on-the-back – along with introductions to the people I needed to meet to help unravel more branches of my family tree. Apparently members of the DELLA VOLPE family are



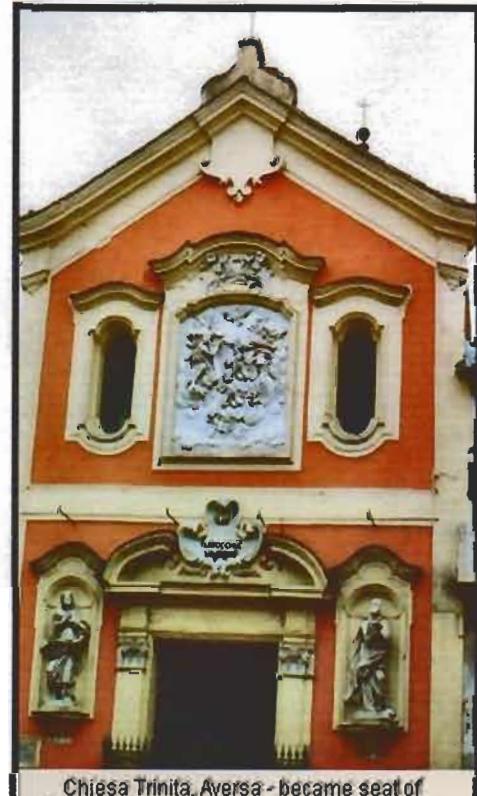
Aversa - remains of bell-tower of
Chiesa di San Audeno, destroyed 1934.



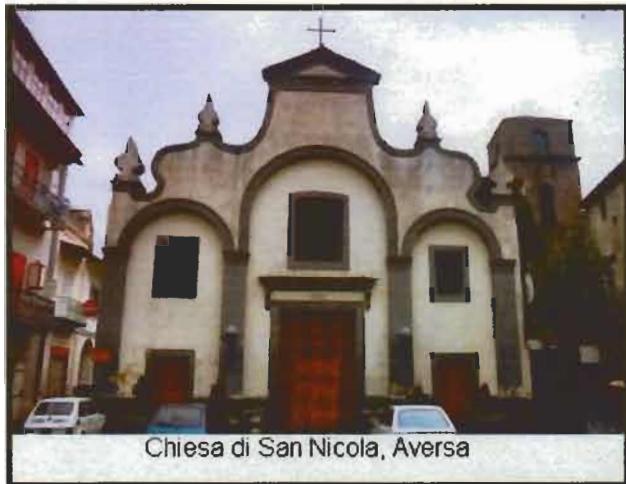
Aversa - Ruins of Chiesa San Audeno, site of d'Angelo-dellaVolpe marriage, 9 August 1798



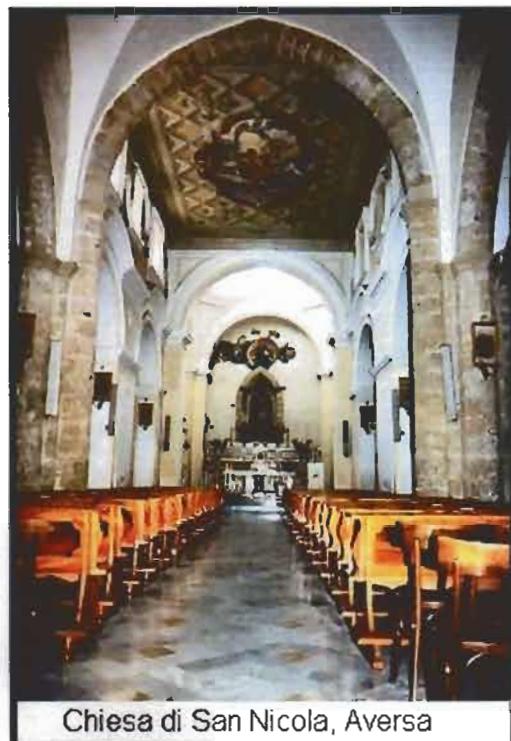
Chiesa Triniti, many relics were salvaged from rubble of
Chiesa San Audeno and transferred there after 1934.



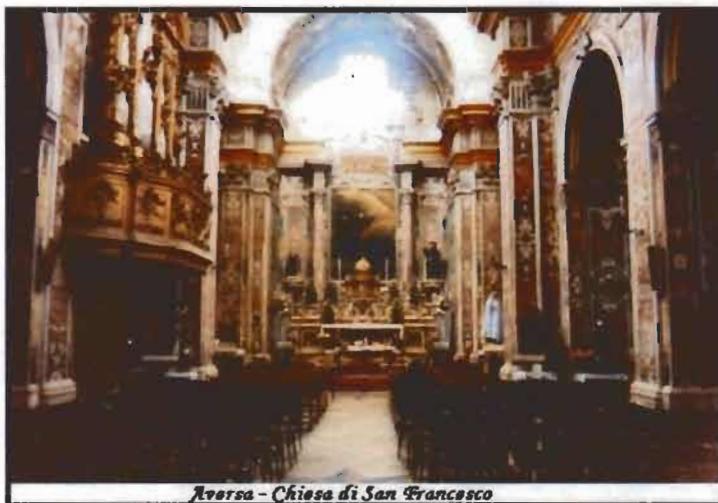
Chiesa Triniti, Aversa - became seat of
Parrocco San Audena after 1934 ferremoto
destroyed the Chiesa San Audena



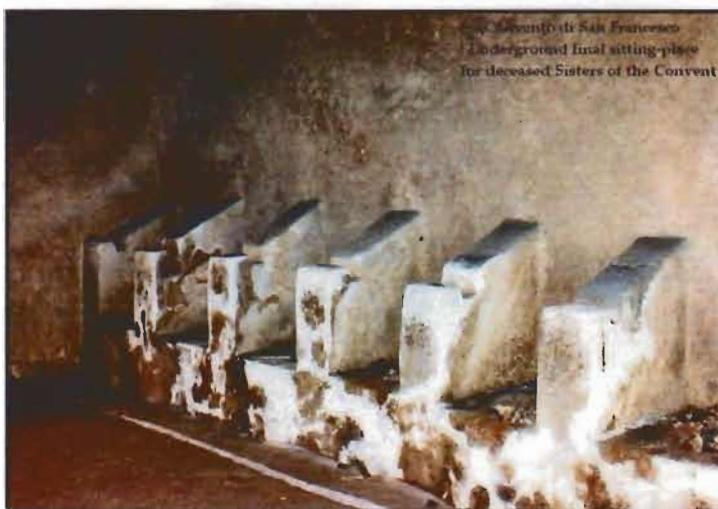
Chiesa di San Nicola, Aversa



Chiesa di San Nicola, Aversa



Aversa - Chiesa di San Francesco



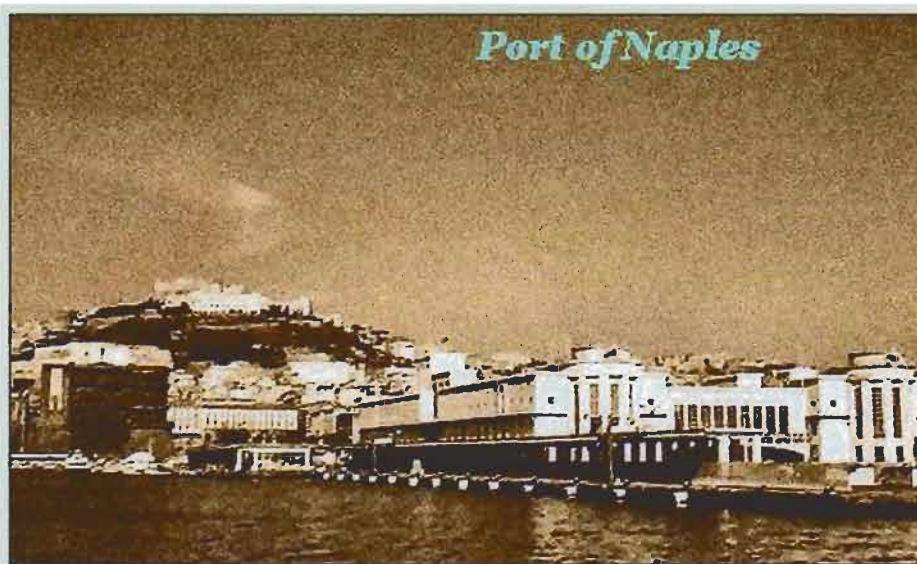
Convento di San Francesco
Underground final sitting-piese
for deceased Sisters of the Convent



Aversa - Chiesa di San Francesco (ceiling)

What precipitated the move from Piedimonte d'Alife? Many factors - economic, climatic and political. Prior to the unification of Italy, the South, the *Mezzogiorno*, served as a virtual colony for their overlords, whether they were Austrian, French or Spanish. The peasants worked the land in a quasi-feudal existence. A handful of aristocrats, along with the higher clergy and professionals formed the ruling class and, as a group, were uninterested in agricultural improvements. As a result the *contadini* (peasants who leased lands or owned small plots) and the *giornalieri* (day laborers) continued farming the way their ancestors had for centuries, by hand and with wooden plows. With unification, the overlords were now Italian, albeit, Northern Italians, who considered the southerners barbarians and they continued the practice of plundering the resources and capital of the south through taxation. Little to no improvements in roads or schools added to the economic problems of the *Mezzogiorno*. This area had perhaps the highest illiteracy rate in all of Europe.

Local communities hunkered down into tight defensive units whose loyalties and interests traveled no further than the sound of the village church bell. The bedrock institution was the intensely patriarchal family, whose members, with good reason, distrusted all outside and higher powers, ecclesiastical as well as secular.



The south was parched by the harsh sirocco winds blowing up from North Africa, necessitating the development of a strong irrigation program, a development that did not occur. The deforestation and soil erosion added to the already bleak picture. Throw into the mix the occasional

earthquake, and it becomes easy to visualize an extremely harsh environment to cultivate crops, the south's only resource. So established was this harsh environment, it had its own name: *La Miseria*.

In 1860 less than 5,000 Americans claimed Italian ancestry while more than 14.5 million did so in 1990 making it the sixth largest nationality in this country. Between 1880 and 1920 more than 4 million Italians immigrated to the U.S. The population in the Campania in 1891, the year before the Maddalena family left, was just over 3 million and in the following year they made up a small part of the 61,631 Italians that landed in America. By 1900 there were almost 1.2 million Italian-Americans with the three most populous states being New York (182,248), Pennsylvania (66,655) and New Jersey (41,865) accounting for more than a quarter of the total. The majority of the immigrants from the south were of sufficient industry, initiative and means to survive the hazards of immigrating and the Italian government viewed the open-door policy of the U.S. as one major avenue to address the problems caused by the failure of a "united" Italy to

live up to the promises of better education, industrial progress, relief of rural poverty and infrastructure development; less than 10% of communities in the south were connected by roads, travel over ancient paths and trails was the only way to get around.

By American standards, land ownership was exploitative and oppressive throughout the south. Partially due to the centralization of all urban activity to the capital city, 18th century feudalism was slower to give way than in more urban areas. The French regicide in 1792 had disastrous results in the Kingdom for Marie Antoinette, Queen of France was sister to Maria Carolina, Queen of Sicily and Naples. With her urging, the Kingdom signed a treaty with Great Britain and was thus dragged into war with France. The two French invasions in 1799 and 1806 destroyed the economic growth of the Kingdom and resulted in a reactionary monarchy that grew more distant from the populace. Napolean arrived in 1806 and abolished feudalism immediately and completely. This abrupt change resulted in a displaced nobility who kept their private lands but lost all income generated by their fiefs and also lost all responsibility to maintain and improve the general situation in their former fiefs. Compounding the problem was a nascent independence movement on the island of Sicily based, in part, on an 1812 constitution that had been forced on Ferdinand I.



Port of Naples, as it looked in 1892

The responsibility to provide for its citizens now fell to a central government that was woefully inadequate and incapable of providing even the least of the services required of any government. The nobility was replaced by urban middle-class merchants and professionals who bought up huge tracts of land and fenced it in, removing the common land that was the very foundation of the small farmers and the poor. Napolean's approach created the worse possible situation: a nobility impoverished overnight, a peasantry that

lost the land they required for sustenance and the promotion of a middle-class that was not interested in improving the lot of anyone but themselves. The restoration of the monarchy did not provide the hoped-for answer for the feudal system had been irreparably damaged which set the stage for the unification movement which had its origins in the north during the 16th century. The majority opinion in the south was that "unification" was the incorrect word; "domination" was what the north wanted, and got. The king of a unified Italy was the King of Sardinia; the "Italian" language was Tuscan; even the first king was styled "II" signifying continuity with the Sardinian royal house.

Umberto I Savoy, King of Italy was not popular and, while on parade in Naples in 1878, survived the first attempt to assassinate him less than a year after becoming king. He treated with the kingdom's former enemy, Austria; he restrained civil liberties and was otherwise aligned with the political conservatives. In 1884 the government was forced to make significant improvements to the water and sanitation system in the city of Naples after a cholera epidemic killed thousands. Begrudging the south for what Umberto considered an "unnecessary" expense to the whole of the kingdom, heavy taxes were levied only in the south further decimating the economy. Umberto's legacy is one of pillaging the south to its greater degree, well-beyond that

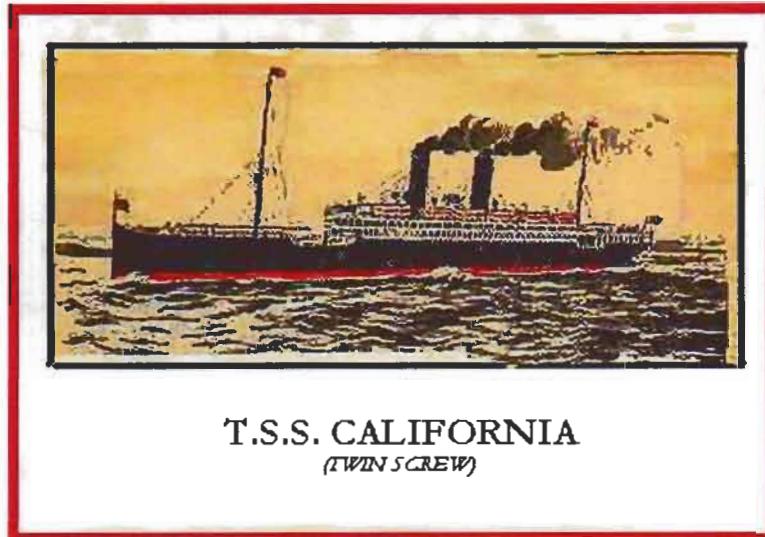
of any "foreign" monarch. He was not so lucky on 29 July 1900 when Gaetano Bresci, of Paterson, N.J., one of the 1.2 million Italian-Americans, shot and killed him in the town of Monza near Milan in retribution for the murder of his sister by royal troops in 1898.

Unification destroyed commercial agriculture and fledgling industry alike. Abolition of customs barriers opened the area up to northern and European economic penetration while the orange and lemon growers were devastated by competition from Florida and California.

With this backdrop established, the area experienced a population growth of 25% from the 1870s to the 1890s. Emigration to America provided an escape to a better life. Overwhelmingly, the immigrants were poor: in 1892, the year Giuseppe Maddalena left Piedimonte d'Alife, the average Italian arrived with eleven dollars upon arrival at the newly opened Ellis Island.

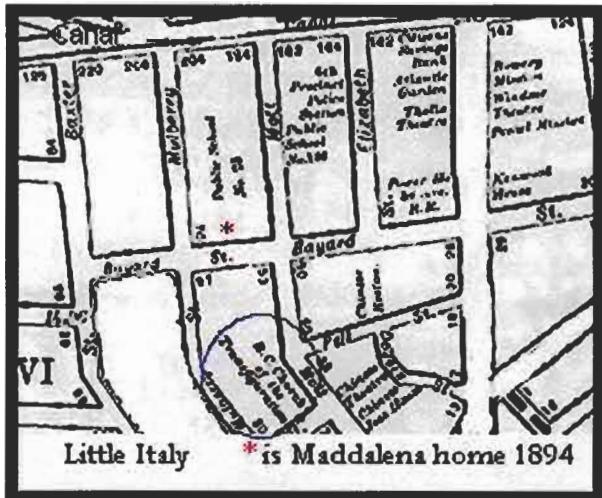
NEW YORK

From 1860 to 1880 the average annual Italian immigration never exceeded thirty-five hundred and most was from the North. From 1881 to 1890, the figure rose to over thirty thousand; the following decade to sixty-five thousand, becoming the most numerous ethnic group entering the United States. Accompanying this was a corresponding increase in the Italian American population, from 833 in 1850 to twenty thousand in 1880, to a quarter million in 1900! Of the immigrants, it is estimated that 43% eventually returned to their homeland.



This is the site that greeted the Maddalena family in 1893. Destroyed by fire in 1897.

Giuseppe, Maria and their four children arrived at Ellis Island on 5 January 1893 after being at sea since 13 December 1892 onboard the *Str. California*. The voyage was a hard one; one made worse when trying to keep four children happy, fed and healthy. And Maria was six



not where his family would live.

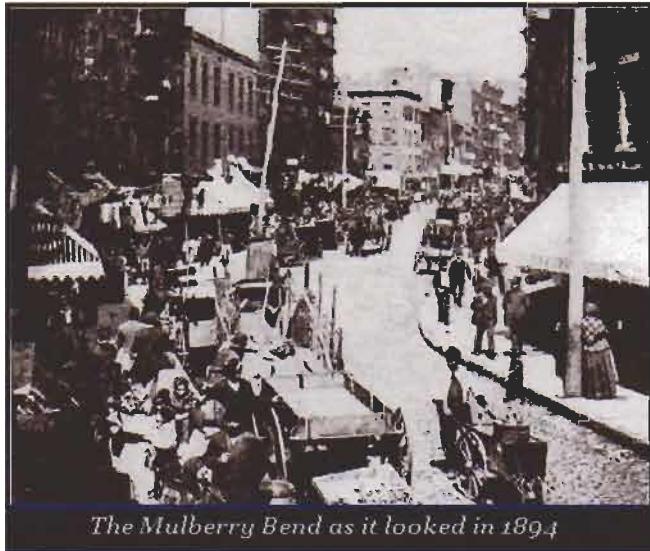
One choice was the upper Eastside, in East Harlem. An Italian community had started there in the 1870s as a shantytown of builders of the First Avenue trolley tracks who were brought in as strikebreakers. Around this nucleus at East River and 106th Street, a 'new' Italian community took shape, by the mid-1880s four thousand had arrived. By the end of the 1890s the community had pushed north to 115th and west to Third Avenue. Italian Harlem reached its greatest in the 1920s when it stretched from 104th to 120th Streets and Third Avenue to the river. Within the East Harlem community, divisions were noticeable. Sicilians on 104th Street, Neapolitans settled between 106th and 107th Streets, Calabrese on 108th Street, Basilicatans from 109th to 115th Streets and Aviglianese at First Avenue and 112th Street. The congregation of Saint Ann's Roman Catholic Church numbered some 30,000 while Our Lady of Mount Carmel was twice that size! The population resisted Americanization, spoke mostly, or only, Italian and retained their native dress. The Maddalena family moved to East 114th Street by 1895 and Giuseppe found work as a 'motor man' on the trolley or elevated trains, a job that was common among Italian immigrants. In 1900 he is found listed as a button-hole maker in the census for that year. He may have been working for a relative, Nickolas D'Allesandro who was a tailor.

months pregnant when she arrived!

Mulberry Bend was the new name for the area called Five Points, the worst part of Manhattan. I was the original "Little Italy" as the immigrants settled into the slums just west of the Bowery. Encompassing Mulberry, Mott, Hester, Prince and Elizabeth Streets, the newcomers supplanted the earlier Irish immigrants. The Maddalena's lived on Bayard Street, a part of Chinatown, then and now, that abutted Little Italy. As Mulberry Bend filled to bursting, satellite communities were thrown off. At first Giuseppe took whatever work he could find and determined that Mulberry Bend was



66 Bayard St., NYC, Maddalena home 1893-5



The Mulberry Bend as it looked in 1894

Leaders of the community were the *padroni* and the *banchiere*. The former recruited Italian laborers for corporate employers around the country, mostly in mining, agriculture, railroads and construction. The latter set themselves up as bankers. Composed of immigrants that had acquired some capital as grocers, barbers, or saloon-keepers; they changed and lent money, and transmitted funds to the old country. They also provided a broader array of services: travel agent, scribe, marriage broker and legal adviser. These two groups, along with a number of better-off professionals, formed the *prominenti*, which

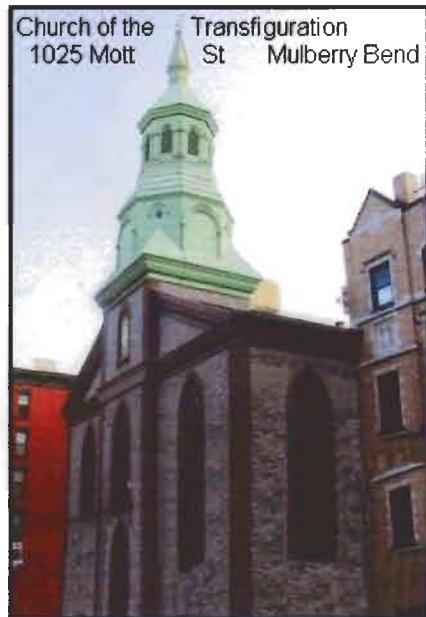
dominated colony life. They owned the Italian newspapers, of which the *Il Progresso Italo-American* (1879) was the leader, owned or financed the mutual aid societies and community organizations, were highly conservative, opposed unions and were highly image conscious. The leading mutual aid society, the *Società Italiana di Beneficenza* (1882) was run by 'Papa Fugazy,' Commendatore Louis V. Fugazy.

Children were raised under a strict moral code, stricter for girls than boys. *Rispetto*, respect, was of prime importance, especially respect for parents and the sanctity of family. Breaking family rules or the moral code often resulted in the offender being cast out of the family. The loner was adrift while the family treated the disgraced one as being a deceased one. Even the local priest could not encroach on family rule.

Public education was served by Public School No. 29 on 125th Street. Movie houses such as the Liberty Theatre and the MGM at 128th Street and Second Avenue provided some of the entertainment. The major market area was on First Avenue between 111th and 116th Streets.

In the late 1890s, Italian Harlem was alive and vibrant, voices streamed from outdoor cafes and the haggling in the pushcart markets and chaos was the rule as thousands of children swarmed the streets. Each block had its own baseball team, and block challenged block in an eight-month long baseball season, often played at Jefferson Park. Many blocks developed "clubs" in which the young adults would contribute a dollar or so towards the rental of a storefront. A pool table was a common addition and these clubs evolved into the social hub of the street and afforded protection to the residents: a cry of distress from any female known to the club members was immediately answered by the gathering of a rough-looking crowd of club members ready to defend the purity of their kinswoman, often with bloody, and sometimes deadly, results.

The face of Irish-dominated Catholicism was distorted by their co-religionists. To the conservative and church going Irish, the Italians were closer to paganism than Catholicism. Deeply religious, the Italians carried to New York their



Church of the Transfiguration
1025 Mott St Mulberry Bend

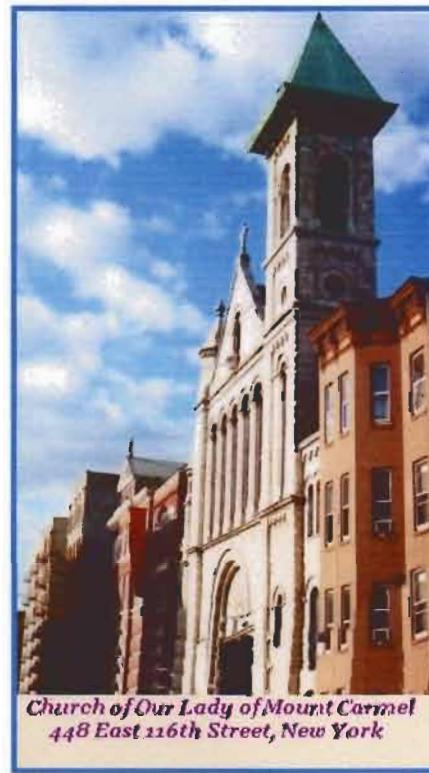
distrust of ecclesiastical authorities and expressed their devotion to the Virgin and their hometown patron saint by creating shrines in their homes. Such intense personal devotions were considered acceptable, if somewhat unorthodox. Far more shocking to the Irish-American clerics was the way such practices spilled into the streets.



In 1881 immigrants from Polla formed a mutual aid society named after *Madonna del Carmine*, the town's protectress. In 1882 they began an annual *festa*, held in 1883 behind a 111th Street boardinghouse in a little chapel. In 1884 they obtained from Polla a statue of the MADONNA and turned their *festa* into a popular celebration. The growing cult alarmed Archbishop Michael Corrigan and the Irish hierarchy invited Father Emiliano Kirner of the Pallottine fathers in London to oversee the chapel in 1884. The East Harlem Italian

community wanted their own church and the *Church of Our Lady of Mount Carmel* became the first Italian-built church in the city, literally. It was built in 1884 by the men and women of the community after the workday, for free, in opposition to the masons' union. An earlier church in Greenwich Village, the *Church of Saint Anthony of Padua* (1858 per *Saint Patrick's Old Cathedral*, 1866 per *Gotham*) had been serving the Italian offshoot community there.

Located at 448 East 116th Street, *Our Lady of Mount Carmel* abutted the Irish and German communities, which caused problems. Funded by older immigrants, who rarely came to church, the builders were relegated, along with the now bejeweled LA MADONNA, to *la chiesa inferiore*, the basement until 1919. In defiance of this slight, and others, the Italian community took to the streets. Not in anger, but in celebration. The *festa* fostered many others around the city and these grew to enormous proportions by the 1890s. Thousands flocked to the food and games, bands and dancing, costumes and parades. The archdiocese was dismayed by the pagan quality, the "barefoot" faith, its' flashiness, and the inversion of the patriarchal order. It was called 'barefoot' faith because many of those parading behind the statue of the MADONNA were indeed barefoot, not of necessity but of reverence. Dollar bills were pinned to the MADONNA'S gowns by the hundreds; the money was distributed by the Church elder's, which removed the archdiocese from the process all together. The gowns for the statue cost several thousands of dollars and it was a supreme honor to be asked to dress the statue. The MADONNA still reposes in her magnificent robes in the Church and is still paraded around the streets every July, keeping alive the pagan traditions of mother Italy. Accompanying the MADONNA were tremendous candles, weighing up to two-hundred pounds, in the shape of hearts, arms or legs, depending on the grace sought by the bearer from the MADONNA. People would come on their knees to the



church altar, others, mostly women, would lick the ground. To these people the Blessed Mother was alive, a real person. Accordingly, the MADONNA had different gowns and several pieces of jewelry, such as, a pair of earrings that were only worn during the Christmas season. Men



419 East 114th St, Italian Harlem
Maddalena home - 1895 to 1900

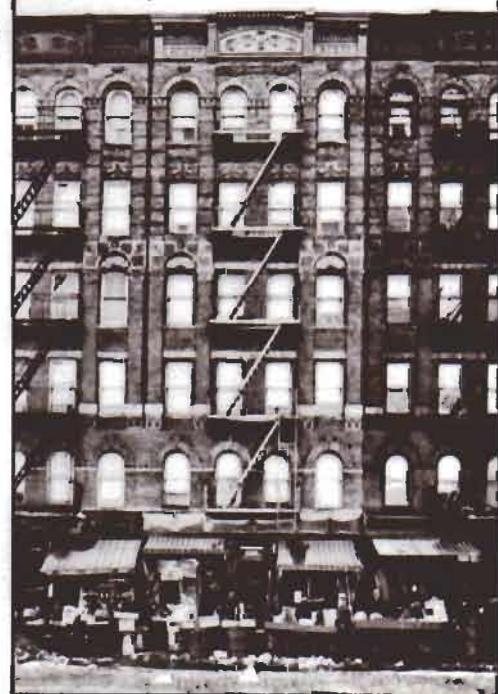
milling in front of their social and regional clubs, playing card games and boccie dominated daily Italian street life, but during the *festa*, the women ruled the streets. The hierarchy also resented the dominance of the *Mount Carmel Society* over the affair, seeing it, correctly, as a direct challenge to the diocesan control over immigrant religious life.

Bishop Corrigan ordered reinforcements with hopes of quelling the popular festivals. He authorized eight Italian churches, including the Scalabrinians' *Saint Joachim* at 22-24 Roosevelt Street in 1888, The *Church of Our Lady of Pompeii* at 25 Carmine Street, *Church of the Most Precious Blood* at 109 Mulberry Street (1891) and the Jesuits' *Missione Italiana della Madonna di Loreto* (1891) at 303 **Elizabeth Street**, all serving Mulberry Bend, however none of these were as close as *Church of the Transfiguration* at 1025 Mott Street. In East Harlem *Our Lady Queen of Angels* (1886) at 226 East 116th Street and *Holy Rosary Church* at 444 East 119th Street served the community.

Where did the MADDALENA family worship? The author methodically contacted over twenty-five churches that existed and requested a search of the records. Each time the

answer was the same: no record. There exists a baptismal record in one of those churches around the Mulberry Bend for MELI MARIA MADDALENA who was born just three months after the family first arrived in the city and who was known to the family in later years as JULIA. The closest and most likely one is the *Church of the Transfiguration* on Mott Street. As for Italian Harlem, a personal visit was required before any information surfaced. The author was rewarded in person at the *Church of Our Lady of Mount Carmel* and, over the protestations of the priest, the 1896 baptismal record of UMBERTO MADDALENA was found after a lengthy two-minute search! This discovery followed a decade-long search in which this Church was contacted on three separate occasions by letter and informed that, after a diligent and thorough search, they could report with absolute certainty that the baptism did not occur at that Church. Each letter was signed by the same diligent secretary. UMBERTO became Grandpop ALBERT MATELENA in a few decades. Somewhat ironic is the author's recent discovery that ALBERT is not the correct translation of Umberto; Hubert or Humbert is!

2199 First Ave, NYC - Maddalena home 1900 - 1902



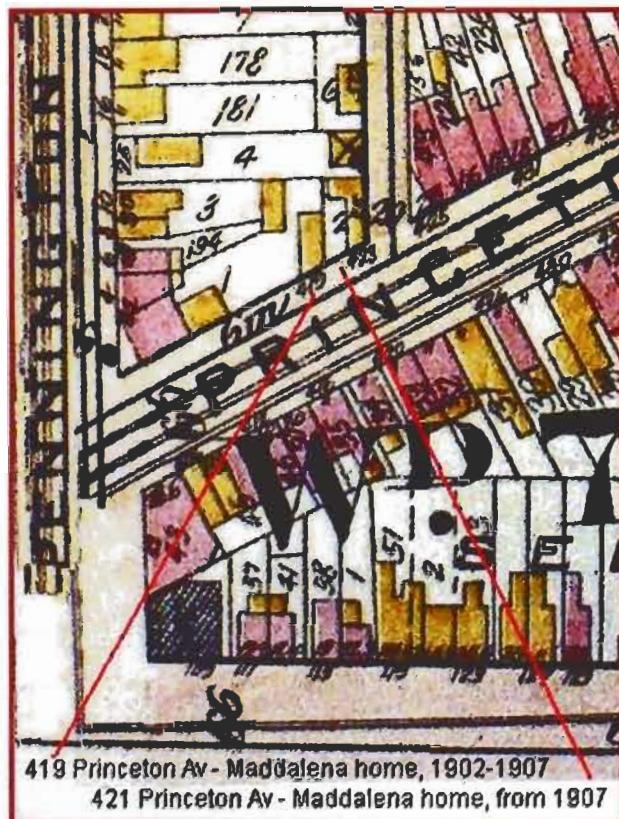
TRENTON

The number and influence of Trenton's Italians is found in the fact that Trenton has only ever had one foreign consulate – the Italian Foreign Consulate, found at 344 Elmer Street in 1908. Even more telling is its ongoing presence a hundred years later as the Italian Honorary Vice-Consulate office at 284 Edinburg Road.

The Italian community in Trenton was, in many ways, similar to Italian communities all over the country. The immigrants tended to live among their own, Sicilians in one area, Neapolitans in another. Likewise, those from Campania, like our ancestors, tended to group together as well. In 1908 there were an estimated 3,500 Italian immigrants living in Trenton. Virtually all lived in one of five distinct Italian communities: the oldest was centered on the Battle Monument in downtown. The Maddalena family moved to this area of old buildings and opened an Italian grocery in the front of their small home at 419 Princeton Avenue in 1902. Five years later they moved next door to an 1861, two-story building with four-rooms and a tin roof at 421 Princeton Avenue where they would remain for more than 2 decades. The building had no heat, other than the stove, and an outhouse served bathroom needs. Maria, widowed in 1925, moved in with her son Albert in 1927, but the grocery remained open through the early 1930s. The property was forfeited for unpaid taxes in 1945 at which time it must have been barely standing as the local tax assessor had rated it "bad and need of much work" 10 years earlier.

As the Italian-Americans grew wealthier, they relocated to areas that were less crowded, but still geographically distinctive. A North Trenton community, mostly Sicilian, was in and around the 600s to 1000s Brunswick Avenue, just before reaching Brunswick Circle; the area included Helene Fuld Hospital and Pete's Steak House, as well as the section of Spruce Street the Albert Matelena and his family lived on in the 1920s; it also included Lanning Avenue that hosted a gambling establishment that the Trenton Police claimed to have been run by Albert. Another Italian neighborhood was the well known Chambersburg community, bounded by Bayard Street, South Clinton, Whittaker and Chestnut Avenues and hosting Perugini, Neapolitans and Sanseles; there were two less well-defined communities: Sicilian in East Trenton and Romans and Bruzzianese in South Trenton. They celebrated their origins by forming social and religious institutions that carried on the traditions of the homeland.

The religious aspect of the community was first addressed by services that were held in a hall at the corner of Jennie and Genesee Streets. The Very Reverend Monsignor Aloysius Pozzi arrived in Trenton in 1901, appointed as the diocesan visitor for the Italians. He became the force behind the founding of *Saint Gioancomo's Roman Catholic Church*, usually called *Saint*



Joachim's, soon thereafter, living in the rectory at 19 Bayard Street. The building, holding 2,000 worshipers, was completed on Butler Street near Clinton Avenue in 1904, but the church itself had been organized earlier as one Matelena baptism occurred there in November 1902. An *Italian Evangelical Church* was dedicated in December 1907 on Whittaker Street near Roebling Avenue. This red brick and limestone structure was the result of the first eighteen members who took their first communion in 1899. The congregation was led by the Reverend Doctor Vincent Serafini and became the *Immanuel Presbyterian Church*. Many feasts were held within the community in honor of the patron saint of their various hometowns. The largest festivals were the FEAST OF SAINT ANTIMO in May, the FEAST OF OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL, started by the *Church of the Immaculate Conception* in July 1901, the FEAST OF THE MADONNA SS DI CASANDRINO, more commonly known as the FEAST OF LIGHTS, held on the second Sunday in September under the auspices of *Saint Joachim's*, beginning in 1906, and the FEAST OF SAINT VINCENT, held in October. That there may have been a combining of two or more of these festivals is indicated in the 1908 book *Trenton's Foreign Colonies* which states the FEAST OF OUR LADY occurs on the 16th of August each year and describes the lights crossing Butler Street from the FEAST OF LIGHTS as belonging to the FEAST OF OUR LADY. There also may be some confusion with the FEAST OF THE ASSUMPTION which is on the 15th of August when the specialty is watermelon (as it still is done in Naples).



421 Princeton Avenue, Trenton, NJ
Maddalena home & deli from 1907

As in New York, these festivals had a celebratory quality whose origins stemmed from pagan times with the substitution of the Virgin Mary or a patron saint as the object of veneration in the place of the local goddess according to one of the priests of *Saint Joachim's*. The largest, the FEAST OF LIGHTS, was so-called due to the numerous arches, fifty in 1907, that spanned Butler Street, from which were suspended thousands of varicolored glasses illuminated by oil lamps. As mentioned, this festival was tied to the town of Casandrino, located outside of Naples. Members of the *Neapolitan Society* carried a statue of LA MADONNA at the head of the street parade, followed by members of the *Holy Name Society* carrying a rosary of epic size, one man at each bead. To the gown of LA MADONNA, hundreds pinned one and two dollar bills, a spectacle that left many non-Italian Catholics aghast. By 1921 the oil lamps had been replaced with over 6000 light bulbs of green, red and white to honor Italy. The pastor of *Saint Joachim's* suspended the festival in 1967, with the support of the Archdiocese, for the reason that it had lost its'

religious/spiritual connotations. In 1977 the *Neapolitan Society* revived the FEAST over the objections of the Archdiocese and Neapolitan Hall paid the \$20,000.00 cost to span Butler Street once again with the lit arches.

In addition to the religious societies, the Italian community formed many other types of organizations, fraternal, social, political, war veteran, cultural, athletic and others. By 1941 155 Italian-American organizations had been incorporated in the city of Trenton, including the *Bercilliero Society* of over a hundred members forming an Italian marching band associated with

Saint Joachim's. There were two full Italian marching brass bands: the *Metropolitan Band* under Vito deLorenzo was founded in the 1880s and the *Mascagni Band* under James Vossa was organized in 1904.

Of the rest, three deserve special mention as they may pertain to our Matelena families. The first was the *Societá Casertana di M.S. San Michele Arcangelo of Trenton, New Jersey*. This mutual and death benefit society (M.S. stands for Mutual Society) was incorporated on 12 September 1907 and served immigrants from Caserta and environs, a group to which the MATELENA'S could claim affiliation. The second was the *Italian-American World War Veterans*, incorporated on 22 October 1936, for veterans of World War I, as ALBERT and FRANK MATELENA were. Over 300 Italian-Americans from Trenton served during that war. The veterans were honored in November 1919. The *Order of the Sons of Italy* held a parade of the veterans on 16 November 1919, in which ALBERT marched. This was followed by a banquet. In the same month, the children of *Saint Joachim's* school held a reception and offered entertainment to this same group. The third was the *Washington and Victor Emmanuel Society*, another beneficial society founded in 1888. Whether our ancestors were affiliated with either group is unknown at this time, as the records, if extant, have not been located, but they are two groups that our ancestors could have been involved with.

The *Sons of Italy*, a nationwide organization, had a chapter in Trenton. The 1921 national convention of the organization was held in Trenton and drew over 200 delegates from all over the country. The Trenton Order, Lodge Number 701, founded in 1929, was formed by the union of the Washington Lodge, organized in 1888, with the Cristoforo Colombo Lodge founded two years earlier. The Washington Lodge had associated with the Sons of Italy in 1917.

Other lodges or clubs of note include the *Cristoforo Colombo Italian Political and Beneficial Club*, organized in 1911. It briefly affiliated with the *Sons of Italy* in 1918; where after a faction of the club continued with the afore-mentioned Cristoforo Colombo Lodge and remained an affiliate of the *Sons of Italy*, while the Club returned to being an independent organization. Another society was the *Giuseppe Garibaldi Mutual Association*, founded in 1899.

Clubs based on locality sprung up during the first decade of the twentieth century: the *Roman Society* was founded in 1904 followed two years later by the *San Filese Society*, the *Calabrian Society* and the *Neapolitan Society*.

There were several Italian newspapers in Trenton. The weekly *La Sentinella* was published by Ronca and Sanelli from the same location as their bank, 688 South Clinton Avenue since being established in 1903. *Il Secolo XX* published for a short time in the early 1900s. The most prominent paper was *L'Italo-American*, founded in 1910. *La Capitale* was started in 1924 and merged with *L'Italo-American* in 1927, which ceased publication in 1929. *La Nuova Capitale* filled the void and began publishing within a week of the closure.

Some institutions became famous for reasons not quite as virtuous as religion; one prime example would be Pete's Steak House. Pete Tramantanni opened several restaurants over the years: in 1933 there was one at 582 South Clinton Avenue; by 1935 one was open, and still is, at 66 South Clinton Avenue near the train station; another one is open at 317 Hudson Street in the Chambersburg section. In 1935 the last one listed was operated as the ItaloAmerican Grocery Company. While these are remarkable Italian restaurants, some of them were also known as a place to go to place a bet on virtually anything. In 1956 Albert Matelena worked at Pete's Steakhouse on Chambers Street, but this one was not affiliated with Tramantanni's places; this was owned by Peter L. Tonti, who capitalized on the use of the name.

The Italian immigrants like every immigrant population preceding them, and every one

since, suffered discrimination. The Italians in Trenton found it difficult to secure mortgages for housing purchases and did something about it. They formed a savings and loan association that ultimately became Roma Savings and Loan Association, an institution that ALBERT MATELENA secured a mortgage from to refinance his house on Euclid Avenue.

The family traditions varied from household to household, depending on the geographical origins of the family. I have selected some of the ones that were more familiar to those whose roots were in the Campania region, and may have been familiar to JOSEPH and MARY MATELENA.

Each spring, a series of 'holidays' were celebrated connected with the Lenten season and Easter. Mardi Gras was celebrated with a special meal. Gnocchi with red sauce and sausage, followed by a pork roast was customary. Dessert was *san guinaccio*, blood pudding that actually did have pig's blood in the recipe. On the first Sunday in Lent, the children had a *pignata*, usually a suspended shoebox filled with candies, that they tried to break open with a stick while blindfolded. This undoubtedly was an import to southern Italy while under the rule of the Spanish Bourbons. On Good Friday, there were preparations for the Easter Sunday dinner. The *casatiello* was a ring of dough with *ciccioli*, deep fried pork scraps, and black pepper, topped with raw eggs, usually one for each family member, held in place by a cross of dough. The *pastiera di grano*, a Neapolitan pie-like pastry dessert with orange oil and ricotta cheese, was also made. An alternate, and less expensive, recipe called for spaghetti, eggs, vanilla, cinnamon and sugar. Also on Good Friday was *la visita ai sepolcri* or the visit to the Sepulchers. The family would visit their church first, then proceed to at least on other one, perhaps more if time allowed. The Easter dinner was a family **event**. **First** there would be the blessing by sprinkling the table and people with palms dipped in **holy** water. The first course was usually a *stragitella*, a beef stock, **vegetable and meatball** soup. This was followed by a roast of lamb and the *casatiello*, followed by a *cicoria* or *radicchio* salad. A *pastiera di grano* and Italian coffee finished the meal.

The Christmas holiday season has been transformed over the years. The tradition of *La Befana* is rarely **observed** anymore. A corruption of the Italian *Epifania*, *La Befana* was a mythical figure **of an old woman** that passed by Earth from January first to the sixth, the Epiphany. On the sixth, magical things would occur, animals would speak, trees would sprout fruit, water and **rivers** were changed into liquid gold, and *La Befana* would leave presents for good children. Undoubtedly of pagan origins, *La Befana* slowly gave way to the Germanic Santa Claus and January 6th was replaced by December 25th. Just as the Easter season had its traditional foods, so did the Christmas season. Holiday pastries include *gli struffoli*, *tortano* (raisin dough ring), *Roccocó* (almond ring dough), *susamielli* (almond dough in an 's' shape), and *mustaccioli* (diamond-shaped pastry with almonds). On Christmas Eve, the meal was usually meatless and consisted of pasta with a clam sauce, a seafood dish, most commonly a filet of sole, fried squid or *capitone* (eel). An *insalata rinforza* of pickled peppers, onions, cauliflower, olives and anchovies followed. Dessert was baked figs stuffed with almonds or fruits and nuts. At midnight on Christmas Eve there may have been some observance of the birth of Christ. A common one was to place the Christ child figure in the manger while singing *Gesú Bambino*. There was a midnight meal of *pizza rustica*, a deep piecrust filled with ricotta, provolone and mozzarella cheeses and prosciutto, salami and eggs, an *insalata rinforza*, cheeses, nuts, *tortano* and *struffoli*. Christmas day was usually quite quiet in comparison; there may have been visits with relatives.

Many would celebrate the New Year by banging pots and pans, or creating some other similar noise, outside, at midnight. On New Year's Day it was customary to serve the traditional Italian pastries with Italian coffee and liqueurs.

THE POWER OF SYMBOLS

Scattered throughout these pages, the reader has encountered several emblems that serve as visual representations of a person, a family or a place. These, when applied to people, are their blazons, shields or coat-of-arms. To designate a place they are also called a coat-of-arms or *stemma*, though such designations are also carried on flags and gonfalons. Gonfalons are, basically, vertical flags suspended from a bar – sometimes they are called banners or *bandiere*. These are the equivalent of the municipal seals of our cities. Banners used in times of war are called battle standards and for this reason the banner is often of a simpler design while the gonfalon may be a heavier fabric with liberal use of embroidery. The gonfalons are more commonly seen than flags are for many places.

Each one tells a story to the viewer that cares to read it. Starting with the *stemmi* for cities, comunes and provinces there are virtually always a shield and a crown. There is often a cradle made from a laurel branch & an oak branch.



SHIELDS or SCUDO:

The most common shapes are the scudo sannitico and the scudo appuntato.

CROWNS or CORONA:

Corona di provincia: gold with two branches - oak and laurel

Corona di provincia antica: mural crown with 12 towers, 7 visible

Corona di città: mural crown with 8 towers, 5 visible

Corona di comune: silver, ghibelline crown with 16 towers, 9 visible

Corona di comune: mural crown with 4 towers, 3 visible

Corone nobiliari: reflecting ancient privileges

Corone speciali: granted by the Presidenza del Consiglio dei Ministri

COLORS:

Each color has an equivalent design to allow for black & white representations:



The designs found on the shields are as individual as the places they represent. While most gonfalon follow this very basic description, there are plenty that do not. On the next page is a sampling of the *stemmi* for many of the places named in this book.



Caviano



Città di Caserta



Castellamare di Stabia



Caeta



Sletiuma



Provincia di Napoli



Roccagiovine



Sperlonga



Telesio Terme



Provincia di Caserta



As late as 2003 the [Campania](#) region had not officially adopted a flag, though a standard flag was used that duplicated the official gonfalon.



The *stemma* for the city of Aversa contains one of the more peculiar shields. It has a strange winged creature called a Basilisk, or *il basilisco*. This is the mythical king of the serpents. The basilisk is a creature that is born from a spherical, yolkless egg, laid during the days of Sirius (the Dog Star) by a seven-year-old rooster, or cockerel, incubated in a serpent's nest and hatched by a toad. In heraldry the basilisk is represented as an animal with the head, torso and legs of a cock, the tongue of a snake and the wings of a bat (though Aversa has chosen "friendlier" wings for their version). The snake-like rump ends in an arrowpoint. Literary references are found in such diverse works as Shakespeare's [Richard III](#), Rowling's [Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets](#), Voltaire's [The Zadig](#) and one appears in Exodus 14:29 of the [Holy Bible](#).



While flags are less common than the gonfalons for the provinces, regions, *comunes* and cities of IL REGNO, they illustrate the history of the rulers of the kingdom.



The coat-of-arms of D'ALTAVILLA (left) who ruled in the late 12th century are reflected in the flag of the ephemeral Kingdom of the Two Sicilies while under GIOCCHINO MURAT from 1811 to 1815 (right).

Also found are the emblems representing Naples (the stallion), Sicily (the Triskelion) and the Napoleonic Empire (the gold eagle). These same symbols are reflected in MURAT's personal



coat-of-arms (left) as well as those of his predecessor, GIUSEPPE BONAPARTE (right) – reflecting the Emperor's decision that the island of Sicily, though escaping his control, was none-the-less an integral part of his Empire. In the latter's arms, the stallion of Naples has been replaced by the cornucopia of the Terra di Lavoro in the upper left quarter and that of Calabria in the upper right.



The Sicilian Triskelion is found throughout history: from 1282 when it appeared in the flag and arms (l) of the Imperial Province of Sicily which had the colors adopted by the cities of Palermo and Corleone for the background and again in 1848 – 1849, appearing on the flag of the Provisional Government of Independent Sicily (r). The winged head of Medusa with three wheat ears and the three bent legs are a symbol of prosperity and good luck.



Reality is also shown in the chosen symbols for an area. While Napoleon may have hoped to include Sicily in his Empire, reality dictated that only the mainland, the Kingdom of Naples, was



a true part of the Empire and the flags of the Kingdom of Naples for 1806 – 1808 (l) and 1808 to 1815 (r) are reflections of that reality, though the latter does incorporate the symbol of Sicily.



One of the most complicated personal coat-of-arms, those of the Holy Roman Emperor CHARLES V, is found on page 34. Possessing many of the same elements, and a high degree of complexity are the arms of the House of BORBONE-DUE SICILIE.



The arms are a history lesson unto themselves. Within appear the following elements:

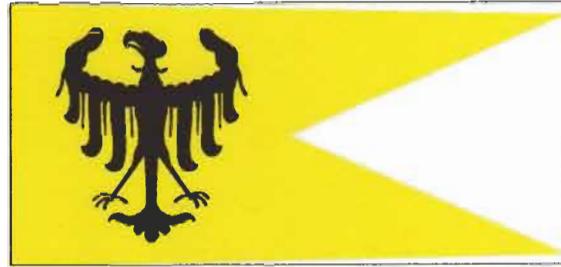


the HOHENSTAUFEN eagle

of ENRICO I
(left, 12th century)

and

his son FEDERICO I
(right, 13th century);



the stakes of the House of ARAGON (l)

and

the fleur-de-lis of the House of BOURBON (r)
with a red “*label de gueules*” at the top.



The arms of ARAGON, used from 1035 to 1707, have their stakes surmounted by a regnal Crown, declaring them to be Kings of ARAGON.



These symbols combine and recombine as the centuries pass. On

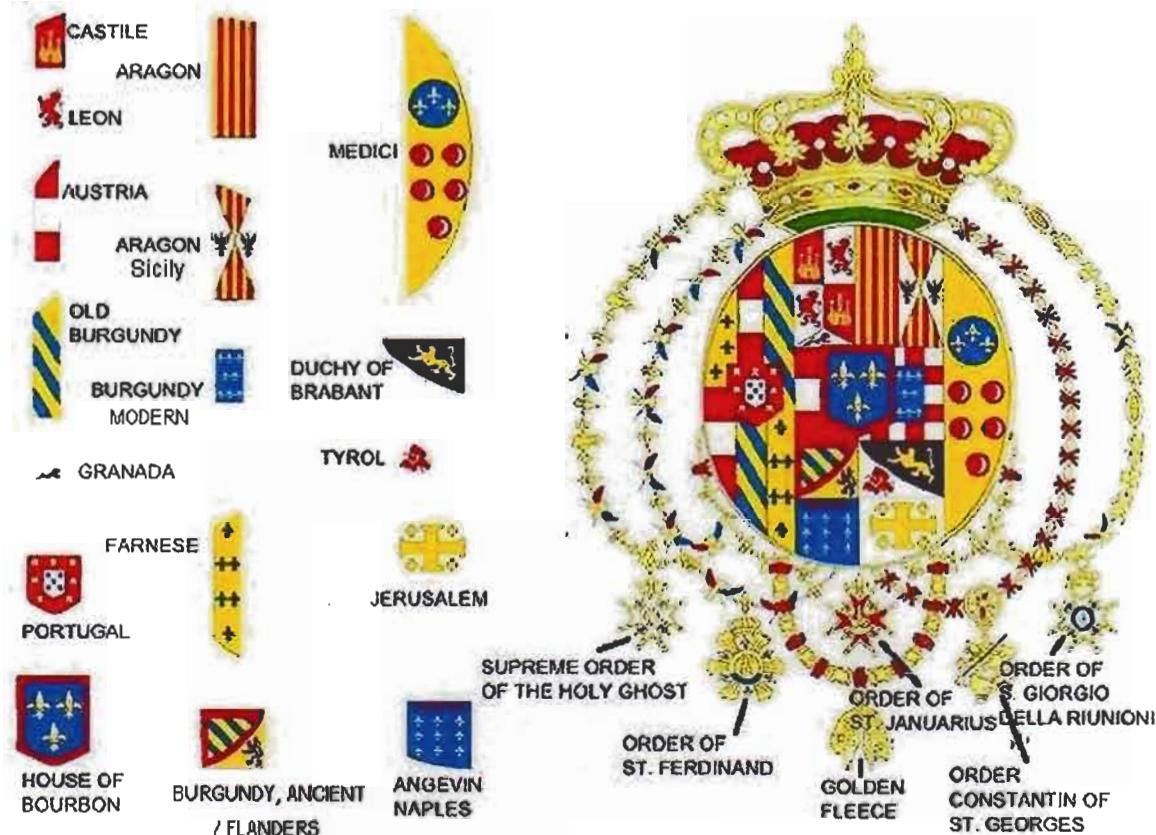
the left is the flag of the island of Sicily in use before 1738 with what initially appears to be the stakes of ARAGON and the HOHENSTAUFEN eagle. Under closer examination, one notes the eagle is not the same one; in fact, it is the eagle of MANFRED HOHENSTAUFEN (r), son of FEDERICO I who was King of Sicily from 1258 until 1266, that is found on the flag.



The BOURBON fleur-de-lis symbol is found on the flag associated with the mainland Kingdom of Sicily (r), more commonly, but incorrectly, called the Kingdom of Naples which was used from 1275 to 1738. After 1738, the flag changed to represent the ascension of the House of BORBONE-DUE SICILIE, to the throne (l). This flag was used until 1848 and again during 1849 – 1860.



A closer look at the arms of the BORBONE-DUE SICILIE:



While these are the arms of the Kingdom, the arms of the family are somewhat simpler as shown here in the personal arms of

FERDINANDO IV before 1816 (l)

and

the family crest from 1816 (r).



The Royal coat-of-arms also appeared on two flags of the Kingdom, the first in 1848 and 1849 in response to an unsuccessful revolution that adopted a separate banner (see page 127) and the second after Napoleon declared the throne vacant but before King FRANCIS II abdicated.



1848 – 1849



&

1860 – 1861

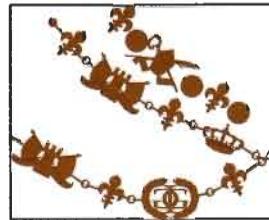


The last consideration on the Royal Arms of the BORBONE-DUE SICILIE to mention is the ornamentation that encircles the blazon. There are six medals or medallions each with a specific collar from which it hangs, or appears to hang. The medals are for membership in a specific Order of Knighthood; most have military origins though membership is not restricted to members of the military or to males only. Two of the six medals pictured on page 130 represent Orders that were created during the reign of the BORBONE-DUE SICILIE which served to distance the Kingdom from the older Orders and elevate the monarchy on the world stage. Page 128 has an accurate representation while that on page 130 does not, in that it shows two medals that are not to be worn at the same time.

Collars: Each of the orders of knighthood has a specific collar designed from which the breast star hangs.



Far left: *ORDER OF THE HOLY SPIRIT* (founded 1578 by Henri III Valois, King of France) to commemorate his election as King of Poland in 1573 and his accession to the throne of France in 1574; was associated with the French monarchy; abolished 1830.



Order of the Holy Spirit



Near left: *THE ILLUSTRIOS ROYAL ORDER OF SAN FERDINANDO AND OF MERIT* (founded 1800 by FERDINANDO IV). The gold collar of the Order is composed of alternating towers, fleurs de lis, a crown and sceptre device and the letter "F", both these last mounted on crossed flags. The present Grand Master is HRH PRINCE FERDINANDO DI BORBONE-DUE SICILIE, Duca di Castro.



Grand Cross Sash and Badge of the Order of St. Ferdinand and of Merit



The Illustrious Royal Order of San Ferdinand and of Merit



THE ROYAL AND DISTINGUISHED ORDER OF CHARLES III

Prior to 1800 the Order that was granted was *THE ROYAL AND DISTINGUISHED ORDER OF CARLOS III* (founded 1771 by Carlos III) to “reward the citizens who, with their effort, initiative and work, have brought a distinguished and extraordinary service to” Spain and the Crown. The current Grand Master is HM JUAN CARLOS I BORBÓN E BORBONE-DUE SICILIE, King of Spain.

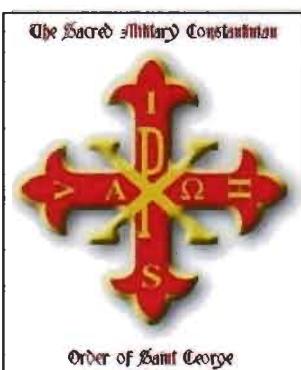


The Royal and Distinguished Order of Carlos III



Order of San Giorgio della Riunione

Far right: *THE ORDER OF SAN GIORGIO DELLA RIUNIONE* (est. 1819 by FERDINANDO I) founded to commemorate in the reunion of the two separate kingdoms of Naples and Sicily, forming the Kingdom of the Two Sicilies in 1816. The present Grand Master is HRH PRINCE FERDINANDO BORBONE-DUE SICILIE, Duca di Castro.



Order of Saint George

Near right: *THE SACRED MILITARY CONSTANTINIAN ORDER OF SAINT GEORGE* (incorporated 1698 by Francesco Farnese, Duke of Parma) is a religious order of the Roman Catholic Church. The Grand Master of the Order was found in the person of the King of the Two Sicilies but the Order is not connected with the kingdom, but to the Papal Curia in the Vatican. FRANCIS II remained Grand Master until his 1894 death when his brother ALFONSO became Grand Master until his death in 1934. Unlike *THE ORDER OF SAN GIORGIO DELLA RIUNIONE* and *THE ILLUSTRIOS ROYAL ORDER OF SAN FERDINANDO AND OF MERIT* this Order is not tied to the monarchy and this allows the current Grand Master to be HRH PRINCIPE DON CARLOS BORBONE-DUE SICILIE E BORBONE-PARMA, Infante di Spagna, Duca di Calabria e Conte di Caserta. The decorations of *THE ORDER OF SAN GIORGIO DELLA RIUNIONE* cannot be worn conjointly with those of the *CONSTANTINIAN ORDER* as is shown on page 130.



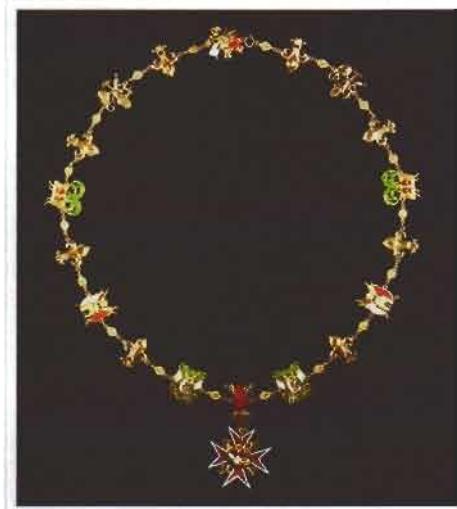
The Illustrious Royal Order of San Gennaro



Upper center: THE ILLUSTRIOS ROYAL ORDER OF SAN GENNARO (JANUARIUS) (est. 1738 by CARLOS VII), the last great dynastic Order to be constituted as a chivalric fraternity rather than a National Merit Order.

The collar is composed of eighteen gold links between which alternate eight gold fleur-de-lis, two ornaments composed of the white enamel letter *C* for *Carlos* charged on two crossed white enameled flags (for the BOURBONS) on

green enameled leaves, two ornaments composed of a gold and black enamel castellated tower charged on crossed white and red enameled flags, two ornaments composed of the open gospels in gold on which rest two phials of the



Martyr's blood in red enamel and placed upon green palm fronds, two ornaments composed of a crossed Bishop's crosier and chalice with the Blessed Sacrament all in gold, and one ornament at the back of the Collar composed of a crowned and armed lion *passant* mounted on two crossed banners of red and white enamel. In the center of the Collar is a red enameled bishop's miter over a cross and crosier from which is suspended the badge of the Order in gold and enamel. There are currently 25 members with the Grand Master being HRH PRINCIPE DON CARLOS BORBONE-DUE SICILIE E BORBONE-PARMA, Infante di Spagna, Duca di Calabria e Conte di Caserta who made 7 appointments in September 2002.

Lower center: THE MOST ILLUSTRIOS ORDER OF THE GOLDEN FLEECE (founded 1430 by Phillip III Valois, Duke of Burgundy) is associated with the Spanish

monarchy. The jewelled collar has firesteels in the shape of the letter *B*, for *Burgundy*, linked by flints. It was bestowed in the Two Sicilies until 1829. The current Grand Master is HM JUAN CARLOS I DI BORBÓN E BORBONE-DUE SICILIE, King of Spain.



The Most Illustrious Order of the Golden Fleece





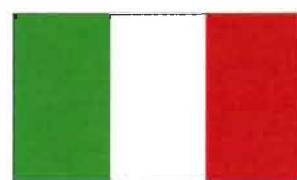
THE ROYAL ORDER OF FRANCIS I BORBONE-DUE SICILIE (est. 1829 by FRANCIS I) Replaced the *GOLDEN FLEECE*. The present Grand Master is HRH PRINCE FERDINANDO BORBONE-DUE SICILIE, Duca di Castro.

After the **fall of the monarchy**, both the deposed king, FRANCIS II and his brother Prince Alfonso (1841 – 1934), Count of Caserta, the 3rd son of King FERDINANDO I ignored Victor Emmanuele's order abolishing the meritorious orders of the Two Sicilies and continued to make awards, FRANCIS from his Farnese Palace in Rome until 1870, then from Austria and later Bavaria, before his death in 1894. Alfonso, head of the cadet branch of BORBONE-DUE SICILIE and heir to the throne continued to bestow the meritorious *THE ORDER OF SAN GIORGIO DELLA RIUNIONE* until 1909, *THE ILLUSTRIOS ROYAL ORDER OF SAN FERDINANDO AND OF MERIT* until 1912 and *THE ROYAL ORDER OF FRANCIS I BORBONE-DUE SICILIE* until 1920. After his death, the Grand Master passed according to the rules of the Orders and the current Grand Masters for each have already been listed.

Any member of any Order conferred by the King of the Two Sicilies, whether acting in that capacity or as Grand Master of the Order as in the case of *THE SACRED MILITARY CONSTANTINIAN ORDER OF SAINT GEORGE*, who subsequently provided service for the Savoyard monarch of the Kingdom of Italy forfeited their award which was confiscated by the Grand Master of the Order.



After the Kingdom of Italy became a reality in 1861, the flag adopted the colors from Milan: red and white from its flag and green from the uniform of the Civic Guard with the coat-of-arms of the House of Savoy centrally placed.



The monarchy was abolished by referendum in 1946 and the Savoyard arms were removed to create the flag of the Republic of Italy in 1948.



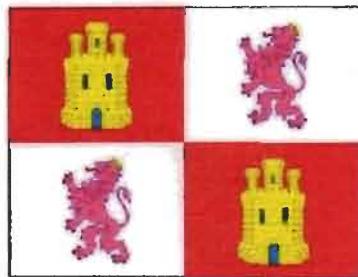
The flag of the Imperial Province Sicily, first adopted in 1282, became the official public flag of the AUTONOMOUS REGION OF SICILY in January 2000.

A (relatively) brief note about Spain: *España* resulted when four kingdoms were united into one geopolitical unit in the late-1400s and early 1500s. Those kingdoms were:

Navarre 1512
Beaumontais



Castile and Leon 1492
Queen Isabel



Aragon 1492
King Ferdinand

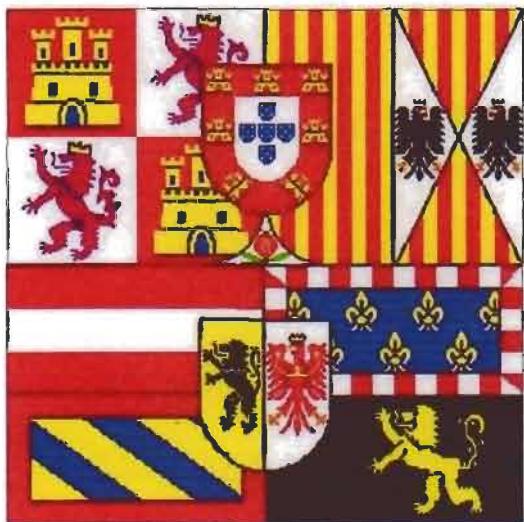


The Royal Standard from 1492 to 1506 combined elements of Aragon, Castile and Leon and Navarre.

Changes over the centuries include the substitution of the Habsburg double-headed eagle for the eagle of St. John (pictured here); the yoke and arrows, *yuga y flechas*, in the lower right were the "personal badges" of Isabel and Ferdinand and were replaced by the "pillars of Hercules" etcetera, etcetera, until we arrive at the Coat of Arms for the Spanish House of Bourbon:

Castile and Leon are represented in the upper half, Aragon in the lower left and Navarre in the lower right; Ferdinand and Isabel are still present as the columns on each side called the "pillars of Hercules" that replaced the yoke and arrows.

A very complex Royal Banner was in use from 1580 through 1700, though there may have been minor changes within this period:



Through all these permutations, one can see the "stakes of Aragon" that became a part, after 1485, of the Coat of Arms of the Gaetani dell'Aquino d'Aragona, Princes of Altamura (1506 to 1741), Princes of Piedimonte (from 1715), Counts of Fondi (12th C. to ?) Counts of Alife and Dukes of Laurenza (from 1624), and Dukes of Traeto (1493-1614).

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APPENDIX 1**IL DUCHI DI NAPOLI**BYZANTINE EMPEROR APPOINTEES: 661 – 840 C.E.

661 – 666	BASILIO
666 – 670	TEOFILATTO I
670 – 672	COSIMO
672 – 677	ANDREA I
677 – 684	CESARIO I
684 – 687	STEFANO I
687 – 696	BONELLO
696 – 706	TEODOSIO
706 – 711	CESARIO II
711 – 719	GOVANNI I
719 – 729	TEODORO
729 – 739	GIORGIO
740 – 755	GREGORIO I
755 – 766	STEFANO II
	(Alternately: 755 - 788)
767 – 794	GREGORIO II
	(Alternately : 788 – 794)
794 – 800	STEFANO II
	(Alternately: Restored?)
800 – 801	TEOFILATTO II
	(Alternately: 794 – 801)
801 – 818	ANTIMO
818 – 821	THEOCTISTUS
821 – 832	STEFANO III
832 – 834	BONO
834 – 834	LEONE
834 – 840	ANDREA II
840 – 840	CONTARDUS

HEREDITARY DUKES: 840 – 1137 C.E. Popular election of SERGIO I, hereditary thereafter

840 – 864	SERGIO I
864 – 870	GREGORIO III
870 – 877	SERGIO II
877 – 898	ATANASIO
898 – 915	GREGORIO IV
915 – 919	GOVANNI II
919 – 928	MARINO I
928 – 968	GOVANNI III
968 – 977	MARINO II
977 – 998	SERGIO III
998 – 1002	GOVANNI IV
1002 – 1027	SERGIO IV
1027 – 1030	[Interregnum: Under control of PANDULF IV, DUKE OF CAPUA]
1030 – 1036	SERGIO IV (Restored)
1036 – 1053	GOVANNI V
1053 – 1074	SERGIO V
1074 – 1107	SERGIO VI
1107 – 1123	GOVANNI VI
1123 – 1137	SERGIO VII
1137 – 1144	ALFONSO D'ALTAVILLA, PRINCE OF CAPUA (elected)

Naples became a Norman possession thereafter.

APPENDIX 2: VICEROYS & LIEUTENANT-GENERALS OF KINGDOM OF NAPLES, 1501 - 1734

KING	Years	Viceroy/Lieutenant-General
LOUIS XII, FRANCE		
	1501-1503	Louis, Duke of Nemours
	1503-1504	Louis II, Marquis of Saluzzo
FERDINAND III, NAPLES (II, ARAGON)		
	1503-1507	Gonzalo Fernández de Córdoba, Duke of Sessa and Terranova
	1507-1509	Juan de Aragón, Count of Ribagorza
	1509	Antonio de Guevara, Count of Potenza
	1509-1522	Ramón de Cardona, Count of Alberto
CHARLES IV, NAPLES (IV, ARAGON; I, SPAIN; V, EMPEROR)		
	1522-1523	Charles de Lannoy (1st term)
	1523-1526	Andrea Carafa, Count of Santa Severina ; Lieutenant-General
	1526-1527	Charles de Lannoy (2nd term)
	1527-1528	Hugo de Moncada
	1528-1530	Philibert of Châlon, Prince of Orange
	1530-1532	Cardinal Pompeo Colonna
	1532-1553	Pedro Álvarez de Toledo, Marquis of Villafranca del Bierzo
	1553	Luis de Toledo (Feb.-May) ; Lieutenant-General
	1553-1556	Pedro Pacheco Ladrón de Guevara, Bishop of Jaén
	1555	Bernardino de Mendoza ; Lieutenant-General
PHILIP I, NAPLES (II, SPAIN)		
	1556-1558	Fernando Álvarez de Toledo, Duke of Alba
	1558	Juan Manrique de Lara (June-Oct.)
	1559-1571	Pedro Afán de Ribera, Duke of Álcalá
	1571-1575	Cardinal Antoine Perrenot de Granvelle
	1575-1579	Íñigo López de Hurtado de Mendoza, Marquis of Mondéjar
	1579-1582	Juan de Zúñiga y Requesens, Prince of Pietrapерzia
	1582-1586	Pedro Téllez-Girón y de la Cueva, Duke of Osuna
	1586-1595	Juan de Zúñiga y Avellaneda , Count of Miranda del Castañar
	1595-1598	Enrique de Guzmán, Count of Olivares
PHILIP II, NAPLES (III, SPAIN)		
	1599-1601	Fernando Ruiz de Castro, Count of Lemos
	1601-1603	Francisco de Castro ; Lieutenant-General
	1603-1610	Juan Alonso Pimentel de Herrera, Count of Benavente
	1610-1616	Pedro Fernández de Castro, Count of Lemos
	1616-1620	Pedro Téllez-Girón, Duke of Osuna
	1620	Cardinal Gaspar de Borja y Velasco , (June-Dec); Lieut-General
	1620-1622	Cardinal Antonio Zapata ; Lieutenant-General

PHILIP III, NAPLES (IV, SPAIN)

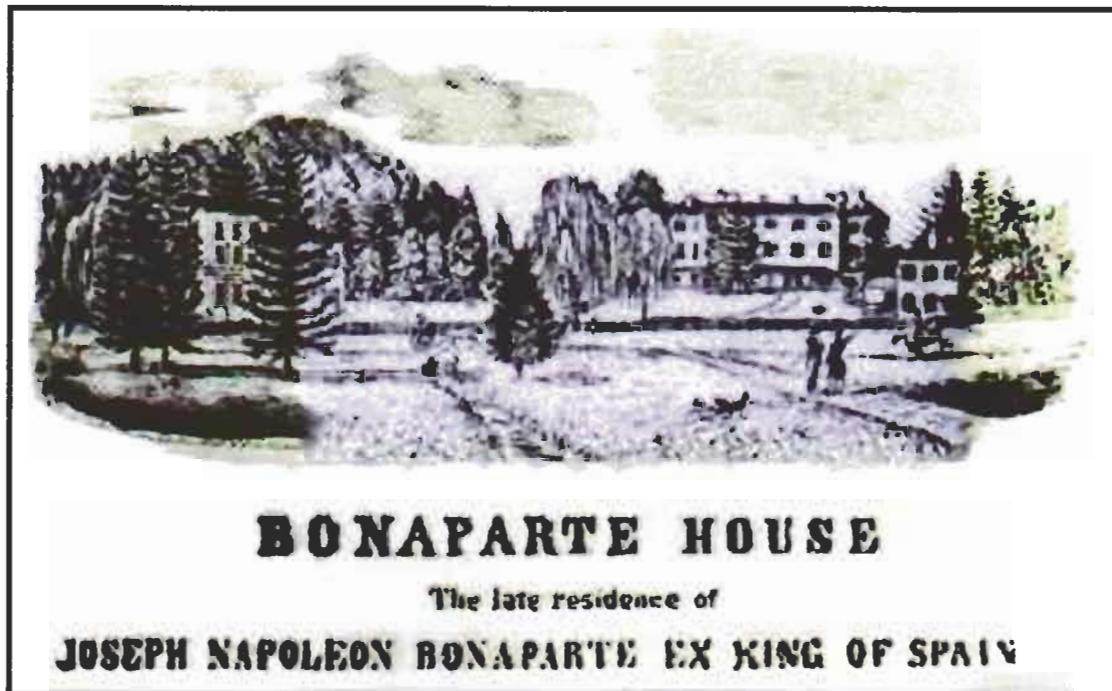
1622-1629	Antonio Álvarez de Toledo y Beaumont de Navarra, Duke of Alba
1629-1631	Fernando Afán de Ribera y Enríquez, Duke of <u>Alcalá</u>
1631-1637	Manuel de Acevedo y Zúñiga, Count of <u>Monterrey</u>
1637-1644	<u>Ramiro Núñez de Guzmán</u> , Duke of Medina de las Torres
1644-1646	Juan Alfonso Enríquez de Cabrera, Count of <u>Modica</u>
1646-1648	Rodrigo Ponce de León, Duke of Arcos
1648	Juan José de Austria (January-March)
1648-1653	Íñigo Vélez de Guevara, Count of <u>Oñate</u> and <u>Villamediana</u>
1654-1659	<u>García de Haro-Sotomayor y Guzmán</u> , Count of <u>Castrillo</u>
1659-1664	<u>Gaspar de Bracamonte y Guzmán</u> , Count of <u>Peñaranda</u>
1664-1665	Cardinal Pascual de Aragón

CHARLES V, NAPLES (II, SPAIN)

1665-1666	Cardinal Pascual de Aragón (continuing)
1666-1671	Pedro Antonio de Aragón
1671-1672	<u>Fadrique de Toledo</u> , Marq. of Villafranca del Bierzo, Lieutenant-General
1672-1675	<u>Antonio Álvarez Osorio</u> , Marquis of <u>Astorga</u>
1675-1683	Fernando Fajardo y Álvarez de Toledo, Marquis of <u>Los Vélez</u>
1683-1687	Gaspar Méndez de Haro, Marquis of <u>Carpio</u>
1687-1696	Francisco de Benavides, Count of <u>Santisteban</u>
1696-1700	Luis Francisco de la Cerda y Aragón, Duke of <u>Medinaceli</u>

PHILIP IV, NAPLES (V, SPAIN)

1700-1702	Luis Francisco de la Cerda y Aragón, Duke of <u>Medinaceli</u> (continuing)
1702-1707	<u>Juan Manuel Fernández Pacheco Cabrera</u> , Duke of <u>Escalona</u>



I recall exploring the grounds of the Divine Word Seminary in my youth; the mansion was off limits but the grounds held fascinating surprises. The caved in roof of the subterranean tunnels that led to Crosswicks Creek fueled my imagination of spies and assassins; of a royal flight from certain death; of clandestine meetings and a thousand other flights of fancy. It was referred to as the Bonaparte mansion which held my fascination intermittently for years. Now it seems the stories of my youth and my genealogical research of later years have come full circle. The story of my Italian ancestors is linked to the story of Point Breeze. The following is taken *verbatim* from source 1 listed at the end with some sections being shortened or eliminated where the information contained therein offered no additive value to this appendix.

JOSEPH BONAPARTE AT POINT BREEZE: NEW JERSEY'S EX-KING AND THE CROWN JEWELS

Joseph and his family left Spain under an assumed name after the Battle of Waterloo, just one step ahead of the law; they found a safe haven in Switzerland. However, many countries of Europe had placed restrictions on them, put them under surveillance and generally harassed them, so Joseph decided to book passage to the United States, accompanied by his trusted (male) secretary, and disguised as an ordinary passenger. He sailed incognito aboard the American brig *Commerce* to New York. (Captain Misservey, who'd been paid 18,000 francs to carry Joseph's party, thought he was carrying someone named Lazare Carnot.) Owing to poor health, his gentle and kind wife, Queen Julie-Marie, could not travel across the Atlantic. She and her two daughters, the Princesses Zenaide and Charlotte, made their home in Italy.

For some weeks Joseph lived in a house overlooking the Hudson River, now used as a restaurant – the Claremont Inn on Riverside Drive near Grant's Tomb. From New York, Joseph proceeded to Philadelphia, where Henry Clay offered him his hotel suite.

Joseph took only a suitcase of jewels with him, deciding it was safer to bury the remainder, with his gold, on the grounds of his Swiss hideaway.

JOSEPH BONAPARTE'S OLD MANSION.

PHILADELPHIA, Nov. 7.—The announcement of the public sale of the Bonaparte estate, at Bordentown, has raised some interesting memories in the still vigorous mind of Lemuel Hazzard, the oldest living paper hanger in Philadelphia, whose birth dates back to 1805. He said to-day: "My first recollection of the Count, as everybody called Joseph Bonaparte, was when I was quite small. He then lived in a large mansion that was situated on Union-street, on the north side, above Front. Just before I finished my apprenticeship I helped to paper the Count's new mansion at Bordentown, and after I was free I papered the house myself several times—that is, as much as I was allowed to paper—and hence a singular story. The rooms on the lower floor, grand saloons, a library, a great dining room with kitchen, pantries, and offices, I knew thoroughly, but I could never find a stairway leading to the floor above. Naturally, boy like, I was very curious and wondered at this; nor was I ever on the second floor but once. I was then admitted with my paper and paste and a journeyman to the Count's bedroom by way of a ladder placed against the window from the outside, and by which I and my men descended and ascended until our work was done. The bedroom was a large room and magnificently furnished. Opening into it were two alcoves, in which were beds, and on one side a large arching gave entrance to a small room lined with shelves on which were boxes labeled in English. 'In account with Stephen Girard.' I could find no door in these rooms that led anywhere. There were several doors opening into closets, and there were two doors in the bedroom, set in flush with the wall, without keyhole or door knob, over which I papered and then by direction of the Count secretly divided the paper along the edge of the doors with a knife. No one after the room was papered, could without the closest examination ever suspect that there were doors where these two existed. I have no doubt that they led to down stairs somewhere, and that there was some way of opening them known only to the Count and his confidants. That he was afraid of assassination has always appeared to me to be the reason for all this."

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a source of comfort for her often lonely mother. In the 1830s. Sensing he did not intend to return to her, Annette married two times and finally moved to New York City for the rest of her life.

At Point Breeze, Bonaparte proceeded to create a country estate in the English picturesque style. He laid the property out with winding carriage drives and planted trees and shrubs lavishly. Near the mouth of Crosswicks Creek, in a low, swampy area, he erected an embankment to create a lake about 200 yards wide and half a mile long, dotted

Soon Joseph felt the need of feminine companionship. Before long, lovely Annette Savage, daughter of a respectable shop keeper, succumbed to the blandishments of the elegant Frenchman, forgot her strict Quaker training, and took up residence with him at Lansdown. This so scandalized the highly moral society of Philadelphia that the "Count de Survilliers" became persona non grata. The Survilliers name was taken from his Mortefontaine estates.

Disgusted with this treatment, he left the city and, on July 2, 1816, purchased two hundred and eleven acres from Stephen Sayre for \$17,500, which became the beautiful estate known as Point Breeze, on the Delaware River near Bordentown, N.J. This property was rapidly added to, until it contained eighteen hundred acres. Local residents called it "Bonaparte's Park." There he built a regal mansion where he lived the life of a simple gentleman in spite of the fact that he entertained some of the most notable men and women of France. He established Annette Savage in a nearby charming house called Rose Hill where she lived for several years, completely shunned by the good ladies of nearby Trenton. Here she bore Joseph two daughters. The first was killed by a falling flower pot, the second, Charlotte, became

with landscaped islands. The upper, narrower end of the lake was spanned by an arched stone bridge.

Joseph Bonaparte built himself a mansion on a bluff overlooking the lake and Crosswicks Creek. Its centre portion may have been erected on the foundations of an older house, but was considerably larger because of side pavilions. The brick and wood mansion was connected to the creek's bank by an underground passage. The tunnels were fortified with brick and were high enough for people to walk through standing erect. (These tunnels raised all sorts of rumors locally.) In 1821, Joseph's vivacious daughter, the Princess Charlotte, joined him at Bordentown.

Perhaps the secret side to Joseph's home on the hill was due to his fear of attack by agents of France's enemies, England or Spain, or Americans unfriendly to his cause. Joseph had constructed a tall outpost or belvedere which commanded a vast panorama of

the adjoining countryside. General Mina, the former guerilla leader visited Joseph and reportedly offered him the crown of Mexico.

Joseph needed to recover his buried fortune to apply it toward completion of his New Jersey home. He turned to his secretary and friend, Louis Mailliard. Mailliard sailed to Europe from Philadelphia on 22 August 1817. He carried letters representing as one Stephen Girard, a wealthy businessman (actually an American neighbor and friend of Joseph). Louis' trip proved to be a dangerous one from the start. His ship was wrecked off the coast of Ireland, but luckily he and the other passengers were rescued. He finally arrived in Europe and traveled overland to Switzerland, keeping an eye open for trouble.

Mailliard finally arrived in Switzerland at Joseph's hideaway chateau. He found Monsieur Veret, Joseph's valet. In the darkness of night, the two went to the secret hiding place, and, much to their relief, found that the treasure remained. Placing many of the jewels in a reinforced belt that he wore around his waist and taking the rest of the gold on his person, Louis headed on to Brussels, Belgium.

In Brussels, Louis visited Joseph's wife, Queen Julie. Heeding her doctor's orders not to travel, she remained in Belgium. It was at that time that the couple's two daughters, Zenaide and Charlotte, returned with Louis, to reside with their father in New Jersey. Louis Mailliard's five months of journey and danger ended and Joseph was reunited with his

A BONAPARTE IN JERSEY

Ex-King Joseph Passed His Years of
Exile in Bordentown.

VERY POPULAR WITH THE TOWN FOLK

His Fourth of July Celebrations and
Skating Carnivals Are Still Re-
membered — Many Dis-
tinguished Visitors.

BORDENTOWN, N. J., June 29.—This place enjoys the distinction of having had a king as a taxpayer—Joseph Bonaparte, once King of Spain and Sicily, who had become an exile. He used to stir things up every Fourth of July for the whole town. He bought a wagonload of fireworks, and he brewed enough punch to keep an ordinary Long Island clambake in good spirits. Everybody who knows a thing or two about the Bonaparte family—and in these days of the Napoleonic revival there is no trouble to get any amount of family gossip—knows that Joseph Bonaparte was Napoleon's "light-minded" brother, who was carried by the "Little Corporal's" tidal wave of prosperity on to two thrones, and by the backward tow into Jersey exile. Long before the air of France became too heavy for him, he had made up his mind when he had to take French leave that about half-way between New-York and Philadelphia would be a good place to locate, because it would be handy to get news from the French ships coming to these two ports.

Old Commodore Stewart met the ex-King

at his Philadelphia club and told him about the glories of Bordentown, and induced him to locate on the Stephen Sayre estate, and to buy a farm and go to raising vegetables. The New-Jersey Legislature gave him the right to own property, and he set up a good deal of an establishment, considering that he was supposed to be a poor King, and always in debt. Napoleon told him once that his finances were "deplorably conducted, apparently on metaphysical principles. Believe me, money is a very physical thing." Joseph, however, did not come over emptyhanded, for he went into American securities by the wholesale, and had considerable gilt-edge stock to give away to his relatives when he died.

Joseph did not like the Bordentown people at first. They annoyed him. They were busybodies, and kept him in a bad humor. One day when he went up to Trenton his house burned down, and the townsfolk turned out and saved much of his property, and every house in the town sheltered some of the royal bric-a-brac and valuables. Everything was returned, even to some little trinkets belonging to the little sad-faced Emperor, then at St. Helena. The honesty of these Jersey people impressed him to tears, and he was profuse in his thanks, and expressed his gratitude in a hundred other ways. He began to associate more with his neighbors and threw open his great park. Then began the jolly Fourth of July celebrations and the ice carnivals which were his principal diversions.

Joseph was a royal gentleman more by accident than anything else. His Jersey neighbors did not know that in the eyes of his fiery little brother he had been a youthful ne'er-do-well. He was educated to be a bishop, not being courageous enough to make a good soldier. Napoleon thought he had talents at flattery and would get on well in society, but never in war. He, however, did do some fighting in Naples, and earned for himself a crown. It was a small crown on a large head. Napoleon himself is the authority for this statement, for when he was on the throne of Naples Joseph boasted considerably about his kingly powers, and this often caused Napoleon to lose his temper. "Joseph must forget all our ties of childhood. Let him give up his old ideas. Let him not dread infamy." With all his sharp criticism of Joseph, Napoleon loved him. In the busiest time of his life he often wrote him a daily letter on matters of State, and actually kept him busy at one time trying to inspire his pretty sister-in-law, Desirée Clary, to contemplate an alliance with him, but Napoleon had been practically cashiered out of the army for disobedience, so Desirée waited and became the Queen of Sweden.

Henry Clay was the first American to accord a welcome to Joseph. He had the only available apartments in the hotel where Joseph and his friends applied, and Henry Clay gave them up instantly, and, strange to say, a dinner was spread at the time, so

fabulous treasure at his Bordentown home.

Joseph built a house for his daughter, Zenaide, and her husband, Prince Charles Lucien (son of Lucien Bonaparte), an amateur ornithologist, on the lake not far from the mansion. Between the two was a covered passageway. Near the Park Street entrance, in the position that would normally be occupied by a gate lodge, was a house for Joseph's trusted secretary, Louis Maillard.

Of these, only the tunnel to the river, now broken through in several places, and Louis Maillard's house survive. This building, clad in scored stucco, is 3 bays wide and one room deep. Covered by a shallow hip roof, it is a severe rectangular box, relieved only by the fanlight over the central entrance.

As the house neared completion, the Emperor's brother began to receive guests. Not only did his Bordentown neighbors come to say hello and spend a quiet afternoon (Joseph proved to be a friendly and generous neighbor) but other Americans, men who were household names, came to pay their respects. Among those who stopped at Point Breeze were John Quincy Adams, later to become the sixth President of the United States, and also Henry Clay and Daniel Webster.

Bonaparte's Point Breeze home took three years to complete. The effect was splendid, with its exquisite landscaping and statuary. An elaborate river-boat was built for travel between Philadelphia and Bordentown.

Point Breeze was partly destroyed by fire shortly after its completion in 1820 (local rumor had it that a Russian lady set the fire) and a new house was erected on the site of the former stable east of the lake. Joseph lived in the new house off and on until 1839. The new house had an art gallery with paintings by Murillo, Rubens, Canaletto, Velasquez, Snyders, Rembrandt, da Vinci, Gerard and Vernet.

In 1830, the French revolution put

the ex-King sat down to a royal good meal and Henry Clay took his party around to a chop house. The friendship begun this day was a lasting one. Joseph reciprocated at Bordentown, where the eloquent Henry Clay often stretched his long limbs under kingly mahogany and absorbed punch with the ardor which unwritten history says the great statesman was capable of. Daniel Webster, John Quincy Adams, Gen. Scott, and old Commodore Stockton were some of the Americans who called to cheer the exiled King in his loneliness.

Commodore Stewart lived about a half-mile away, and he was a congenial neighbor. He always participated in the jolly Fourth of July celebrations. The gates were thrown open and the whole town was welcome to come and spend the day. There were music and refreshments and a generous discharge of firearms in honor of the flags that floated from the trees. There were always some distinguished callers from New-York and Philadelphia. It was on these occasions that Commodore Stewart laid his strongest claim to a brew of punch. There were few men of his day and generation who could make as many varieties of fancy drinks as "Old Ironsides" Stewart. It was his delight each year to mix a novel brew. There is no doubt that Joseph enjoyed these Fourth of July celebrations, for when the Marquis Lafayette visited him on the 26th day of September, 1824, there was a very decided expression of reverence and esteem on the part of the people who crowded into the park, and before the departure of the Marquis and his friends the doors of the mansion were thrown open and the towns-folk poured into the main reception room to shake hands with the distinguished Frenchman, who was then the guest of the country. After the crowd had left the house, Gen. Lafayette begged his host's pardon for having drawn upon him so great a concourse of visitors. Joseph replied that

he considered himself happy that his neighbors had been disposed to join him in expressions of respect, and, besides, he added: "I have long been accustomed to see as many of them in my house, for every year on the Fourth of July we celebrate the anniversary of American independence."

Joseph liked ease, and managed to get lots of it after he settled at Bordentown. He was a very democratic-looking citizen, and there was little that was kingly about him. Garrett S. Cannon, a prominent citizen of Bordentown, who saw Joseph one day and made a memorandum of it, said: "In stature he was short, his body inclined to corpulency, but he had the distinguished characteristics of the Bonapartes."

Joseph had gathered around him quite a family to dispel his loneliness, but outside of his son-in-law, Prince Charles, who had married Princess Zenaide, there were none

of his immediate family with him. The Queen remained in Europe. Prince Charles and his wife had been recently married, and they kept very much together in the enjoyment of their honeymoon. Charles gave what little leisure he had to the study of natural science, and he and Alexander Wilson, the noted ornithologist, published a book on American birds. Adolph Meillard, who was his secretary and confidential agent, with his family, also resided in the park. Distinguished Frenchmen who came to America always called on the ex-King, spending a day or two and giving him the latest details about French affairs. Among his distinguished callers besides Lafayette were Moreau, Clanzel, Lallemand, and Desmoncelles.

The greatest fete ever given at the park was when a delegation came from Mexico and offered Joseph the crown. He declined the honor, saying that he had worn two crowns and they had given him no happiness, and that he did not care to wear a third. The Mexicans felt very bad about it, so he brought together many of his friends from Philadelphia and the towns near by, and gave them a dance. In the Winter time, when the lake in the park was frozen over, he gave at intervals skating carnivals, in which he participated himself, skating and rambling about with the young men in evident enjoyment. When affairs in Europe so settled themselves that he could return, he left Bordentown with the whole population at the station to say good-bye. It was a tender parting, for the Jersey folk realized that they had lost a good friend.

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Philippe on the throne and Joseph hastened back across the Atlantic, moving to London to be closer to France. He never was allowed to return to France

Joseph Bonaparte returned to America in 1836 and stayed at his estate in Bordentown for about three years. In 1839, he received permission due to his poor health to visit his family in Florence. His could not take the rigors of trans-Atlantic travel and never returned to the United States. In 1844, while in Florence, Joseph Bonaparte died at the age of 76.

Charlotte, the daughter of Joseph Bonaparte and Annette Savage, married Zebulon Benton, the son of a poor physician. The thirty thousand dollars which Joseph Bonaparte settled on his daughter at the time of her marriage, was soon squandered by her husband in wild speculations. In 1859 she traveled to France and visited Napoleon III, the new Bonaparte Emperor. He declared her birth legitimate and appointed her daughter

Josephine a maid-of-honor to the Empress Eugénie. With the downfall of Napoleon III after the Franco-Prussian War, Charlotte's pension stopped. She returned to America where she died in poverty in 1890.

Joseph's grandson, also named Joseph, disposed of the Point Breeze estate and its contents in 1847. The furnishings and art collection were sold at auction. The art collection, at the time, was one of the finest in America. Henry Beckett, the British consul in Philadelphia, purchased Point Breeze in 1850. He demolished the house Bonaparte had built, replacing it with an Italianate villa with such amenities as gas and hot and cold water. However, as late as 1906, legal notices appeared in Parisian newspapers seeking any information leading to the discovery of living descendants of Joseph Bonaparte as they were required to finally settle the transfer of Pointe Breeze in Bordentown, New Jersey. In 1924 a subsequent owner, Harris Hammon, had the house remodeled in English Georgian Revival style. The Divine Word Mission purchased the property in 1941 and began to operate a seminary in 1947. In 1963 the seminary erected three modern school buildings near the mansion. However, the mansion burned in 1983.

Manor House of Joseph Bonaparte near Bordentown

Karl Bodmer
Oil on Canvas, 1832
Joslyn Art Museum, Gift of the Enron Art Foundation

This view of "Point Breeze" shows the second house erected by Joseph Bonaparte after the fire of 1820. The artist Bodmer (1809-1893) accompanied Maximilian, Prince of Wied-Neuwied, on a tour of the United States in 1832-34 during which he executed this and another view of "Point Breeze." Reproduced courtesy of the Joslyn Art Museum, Omaha, Nebraska.



Malocchio

In the on-line version of the 1911 *Encyclopaedia Britannica*'s section on Naples, the paragraph about folk-lore explains how Neapolitans ward off the "evil eye"

...charms against the Evil Eye...were all derived from the survival of ancient classical legends... These may be divided into three classes: first, the sprig of rue in silver, with sundry emblems attached to it, all of which refer to the worship of Diana, whose shrine at Capua was of considerable importance; secondly, the serpent charms, which formed part of the worship of Aesculapius, and were no doubt derived largely from the ancient eastern ophiolatry; and lastly charms derived from the legends of the Sirens...The sea-horse and the Siren alone are commonly found as charms...

There are a few terms used for "evil eye" and "bad luck" in Italian, in general, and in southern Italy, in particular. Simple "bad luck" is *sfortuna*, which is about the same as "misfortune" in English; there is no implication of it having been caused. The "evil eye," however—**malocchio**—is much different. That is misfortune "cast" on you by a malevolent person with that particular ability. Indeed, one of the common Neapolitan terms for that kind of bad luck is *jettatura*, which comes from the Italian verb "gettare," meaning "throw" or "cast". Another common word in both Italian and Neapolitan for "witchcraft" is *fattura*, from the root "make," or "do". (*Fattura*, fittingly, is also the name for the received invoice you have to give someone if you sell them something, so you can't get out of paying a tax on your profit. Witchcraft, bad luck, taxes. I rest my case.)

In any event, the most common way to ward off the Evil Eye, or bad luck caused by a spell, is by making the "sign of the horns"—*le corna*—that is, extending the index and little fingers of the hand and wagging your hand towards the ground. You can also buy a lucky charm in the shape of a single curved horn (remember those Italian good luck horns that were so prevalent in the 'burg?). There are two explanations for the use of the horns as a good luck charm: one says that it comes from the defensive posture of animals: head lowered, horns ready to use; the other—more likely—is that it has to do with the sexual

vigor implied in the symbol of the male animal. Phallic symbols are also commonly seen throughout the Greek and Roman world as good luck charms. That may more since another common way for men in Naples to ward off bad luck is to touch their genitals. (Touching someone else's genitals, on the other hand, may cause good or bad luck.) Sounds like a weak attempt for Italian men to justify their preoccupation with their own genitalia. If not, then all I can assume that there is an extremely great quantity of bad luck for the men to ward off (or they all have crabs). Depending on the threshold of superstition on a given day in Naples, you can get some interesting body language going on in public and broad daylight on any street in the city.

Rue is a charm against the Evil Eye. There are plants used in folklore to assist with the casting of spells as well as others to repel those cast on you. Rue (*ruta graveolens*) is specific for its action of repelling *jettatura*. An Italian proverb goes:

Aglio, fravaglie, fatture ca nun quaglie...

It's a dialect verse meaning "Garlic and animal innards keep away bad luck." See? And you thought all that vampire stuff was made up! In some sources, rue is the famous "moly plant" used by Ulysses in *The Odyssey* to protect himself and his men from the spell of the Circe.

Serpent charms and ophiolatry (serpent worship) of the second group of remedies from *Encyclopaedia Britannica* are apparently hard to find in Naples. The good luck amulets with sea-horses and sirens and their associated symbols, the third group of remedies, are plentiful in Naples. Some of the amulets sold in street stalls—charms that have the look of a single horn—are, in fact, curved and, if not coiled, at least "wiggly". May be a hold-over reference to snakes; however the only Neapolitan myth about snakes has to do with how Virgil is said to have used his magical powers to drive away a great serpent that lived beneath the hill of the city.

There is a split in our mythology between the benevolent and malevolent attributes of snakes. Certain contexts are vague; is the presence of twin serpents on the caduceus, the symbol of the medical profession a benevolent or malevolent attribute? Contrast the evil seducer/serpent in the book of Genesis with Buddhist mythology where the cobra protects Buddha by spreading its hood over him. References to snakes and serpents can not be assumed to be malevolent.

There are countless stories told about the serious negative effects of being the recipient of the "Evil Eye" which is as good a reason as any to conduct your affairs so as to not piss anyone off, especially old, Italian ladies!!!!

Appendix 5: The final moments of CORRADO II HOHENSTAUFEN, King of Sicily

A KING BETRAYED



Corrado II Hohenstaufen
1254-1258 & 1266-1268

With CORRADO II HOHENSTAUFEN, KING OF SICILY fled Frederick I, Margrave of Baden, his close friend, not long before his playmate; and these two princely lads were accompanied by a few faithful followers, the last remnant of what so short a time before was a noble army. All that August night they sped across the mountains in the direction of the coast, where they hoped to find some craft which would carry them to Pisa, a safe haven for them all. They struck the sea near Astura in the Pontine marshes.

On the shore they found a little fishing boat; and having sought out the men who owned it, they offered large reward for the voyage up the coast.

The fellows demurred that they must have provisions for the trip; and CORRADO, taking a ring from his finger, gave it to one of them and told him to buy bread at the nearest place he could. It was a fatal imprudence. The sailor pledged the ring at a tavern in exchange for bread. The host saw the value of the jewel, and took it instantly to the lord of the castle near at hand.

Now this noble was of the Frangipani family, on which honors had been heaped by the grandfather of the boy-king, thus cast up a fugitive and in peril of his life in his domain. The only gratitude which honor demanded of him was to let the lad pass by and escape in his own way; but even this was too much for Frangipani. He saw at once that the ring must belong to some man of mark escaping from the fight, and he bade his servants launch a boat, and bring back the fugitive whoever he might be.

When Frangipani's boat overtook the other, CORRADO was not much dismayed. He knew how greatly the Frangipani were indebted to his house, and he did not doubt they would show due gratitude. The poor lad did not know the world. Frangipani fore-saw that no boon he could ask of CARLO I D'ANGIO would be too great if he handed him his enemy; and thus not many days had passed when on the 8th of September CORRADO and Frederick were brought into Naples, and carried through the streets where they had hoped to ride as conquerors and imprisoned in Castel dell'Ovo.

Even CARLO, bloodthirsty as he was, shrank from taking his prisoners' life without some legal warrant. It was so plain that they had played no part but those of gallant gentlemen, striking a blow for what was in fact their right, however much the Pope might question it, or assert his title to bestow the kingdom where he would. He convoked an assembly of jurists, but found only one among the number obsequious enough to tax CORRADO or his followers with any crime. Thus driven back on his own murderous will as ultimate



Castel dell'Ovo, Napoli

sanction for the act he meditated, CARLO himself pronounced the death sentence on the prisoner for being a traitor.



On the 29th of October a scaffold was raised in the Mercato. The chronicles say that it was by the stream which ran past the Church of Saint Maria of Carmine, a humbler building than that which we see now, but standing on the same spot. They add also that it was near the sea, from which we may conclude that few, if any, houses parted the market-place from the beach in those days, and that the whole of the most exquisite coastline of his father's kingdom stretched blue and fair before 16 year old CORRADO's eyes as he mounted the scaffold. Side by side with him came his true comrade, the 19 year old Frederick of Baden. The united ages of the

boys scarce turned thirty. There was no nobler blood in Europe than theirs, and among the great crowd of citizens there were few who did not weep when they saw the fair-haired lads embrace each other beside the block. The demeanor of both was high and bold. Of CORRADO, no less than of another king more than thrice his age, it can be said:

*He nothing common did or mean
Upon that memorable scene.*

He turned to the people, and avowed he had defended his right.

Before God, I have earned death as a sinner, but not for this!

Then he flung his glove far out among the crowd, thus with his last defiant gesture handing on the right of vengeance and the succession of his kingdom to those who could wrestle for it with the French. The glove was caught up by a German knight, Heinrich von Waldburg, who did in fact convey it to QUEEN CONSTANCE OF ARAGON, last of the Hohenstaufen blood, of which bequest came many consequences.

AN ACT OF INFAMY

CORRADO was ready to depart. He kissed his comrades, took off his shirt, and then raising his eyes to heaven, said aloud:

*Jesus Christ, Lord of all creation, king of honor, if this cup of sorrow may not pass by me,
into Thy hands I commend my spirit.*

Then he knelt and laid down his head; but at the last moment earthly sorrows returned upon him, and starting half up he cried:

Oh, mother, what a sorrow I am making for you!

Having said this he spoke no more, but received the stroke. As it fell, Frederick of Baden gave a scream so pitiful that all men wept. A moment later he had travelled the same path, and the two lads were together once more.

So died these brave German boys, and so perished the last hope of happiness for Naples. For if any- thing in history is sure, it is as clear as day that Naples never afterwards was ruled by kings so strong and just as those whose blood was shed in the Mercato on that October day. As for the slayer, he has left a name at which men spit. Six centuries already have execrated his memory. It may well be that sixty more will execrate it. Yet even while he lived he ate the bread of tears, and the day came when in the anguish of his heart he was heard to pray aloud that God who had raised him to such a height of fortune might cast him down by gentler steps.

THE CHURCH OF SANTA MARIA CAMINE

There are countless traditions connected with the death of CORRADO. Men say that as his head fell an eagle swooped down from the sky, dipped its wing in the blood, and flew off again across the city.

Another and more constant tale is that the poor boy's mother, Elizabeth of Wittelsbach, when she heard of his captivity, gathered a great sum of **money to ransom him, and came herself to Naples, but was too late, and landed in deep mourning from her ship, and came into the Church of the Carmine, poor and mean in those days, and gave the monks all the money she had brought to sing Masses for ever for her son's soul.**

These may be fables. But to pass to truth, it is a fact that in the year 1631, when the pavement of the Church of the Carmine was being lowered, a leaden coffin was found behind the high altar. The letters "R. C. C." roughly cut on it, were interpreted to mean "REGIS CORRADINI CORPUS," the body of King CORRADO. The coffin was opened. It contained the skeleton of a lad, the head severed and lying on the breast. There were some fragments of linen, which turned to dust immediately, and by the side lay a sword unsheathed, as bright and speckless as if it had but just come from the maker's hands. One would give much to know that the boy-king still slept there with his sword beside him, but when the coffin was next opened, at the wish of one of his own family in 1832, the sword had gone.

(Adapted from Arthur H. Norway)



Within a circle created with the city of Nürnberg to the north, Augsburg to the west, Munich to the south and passing through the Upper Bavarian National Forest on the east, one will find the towns of Cham, Hohenburg, Vohburg, Nordgau and Schweinspeunt (or Schweinpoint). Nordgau is just north of Regensburg; 30 miles northwest is rural Hohenburg, while the same distance to the northeast will bring you to Cham. Heading southwest from Regensburg, Vohburg will be found about 45 miles away while the village Schweinspeunt is another 50 miles west of Vohburg, located just north of Marxheim close to the border with Baden-Württemberg.

The "Bayerischen Nordgau" or Bavarian Nordgau, is located around Nürnberg, Bamberg and the adjacent area along the river Main. The Margrafschaft (March, Margraviate) of Nordgau in Bavaria was ruled by Henry von Schweinfurt until 1004; subsequently granted by king to the Ratpotonen family who held large land holdings in the Bavarian towns of Vohburg and Cham. Subsequently, the title was altered from Markgraf von Nordgau to Markgraf von Vohburg for the senior branch and Markgraf von Cham for a junior line.



DIEPOLD VII VON SCHWEINSPEUNT: Born circa 1260, Vohburg (Bavaria, Germany)

He married: (1) [UNKNOWN] and (2) MECHTILD VON WASSERBURG

Had at least 7 children, the first by an unnamed first wife and the rest by his second wife MECHTILD:

1. [DAUGHTER] VON SCHWEINSPEUNT, m. GUGLIELMO II, Conte di Caserta
2. BERTHOLD III VON HOHENBURG, m. ISOLDA LANCIA.
3. DIEPOLD VIII VON HOHENBURG.
4. OTTO VON HOHENBURG.
5. LUDWIG VON HOHENBURG.
6. RICHIZA VON HOHENBURG, m. HEINRICH VON SPONHEIM.
7. HADWIG VON HOHENBURG, m. MARKWARD VON ARNSBURG UND HEIDECK.

DIEPOLD was the son of:

BERTHOLD I VON VOHBURG

He married: (1) [UNKNOWN]

Had at least 4 children:

1. DIEPOLD VII. VON VOHBURG, later VON SCHWEINSPEUNT.
2. BERTHOLD II VON VOHBURG.
3. OTTO VON VOHBURG.
4. SIEGFRIED VON VOHBURG, m. [DAUGHTER] D'AQUILA

BERTHOLD was the son of:

DIEPOLD III VON GIEGEN

whose ancestry continues on page 153

and

KUNIGUNDE VON BEICHLINGEN

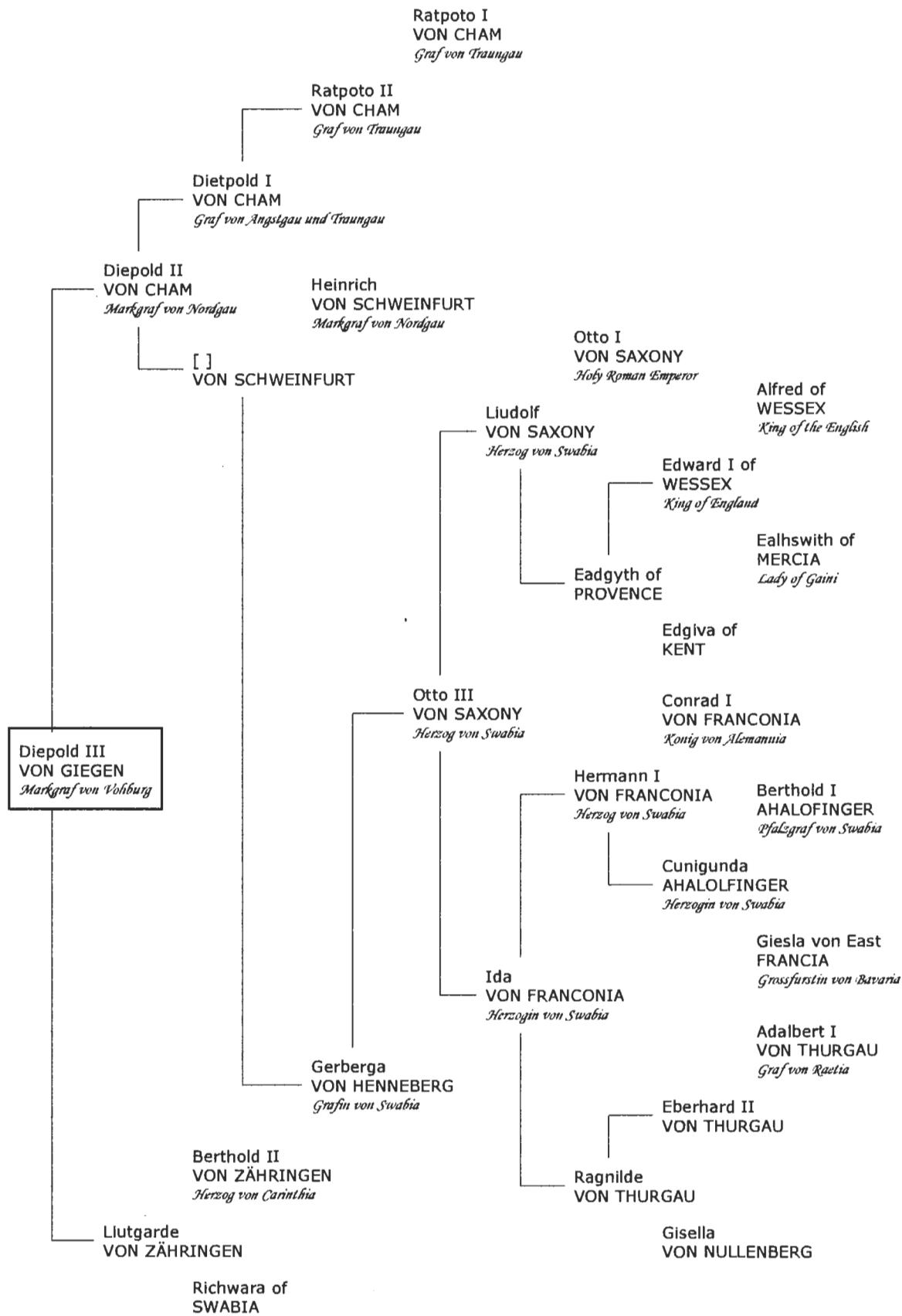
whose ancestry continues on page 154.

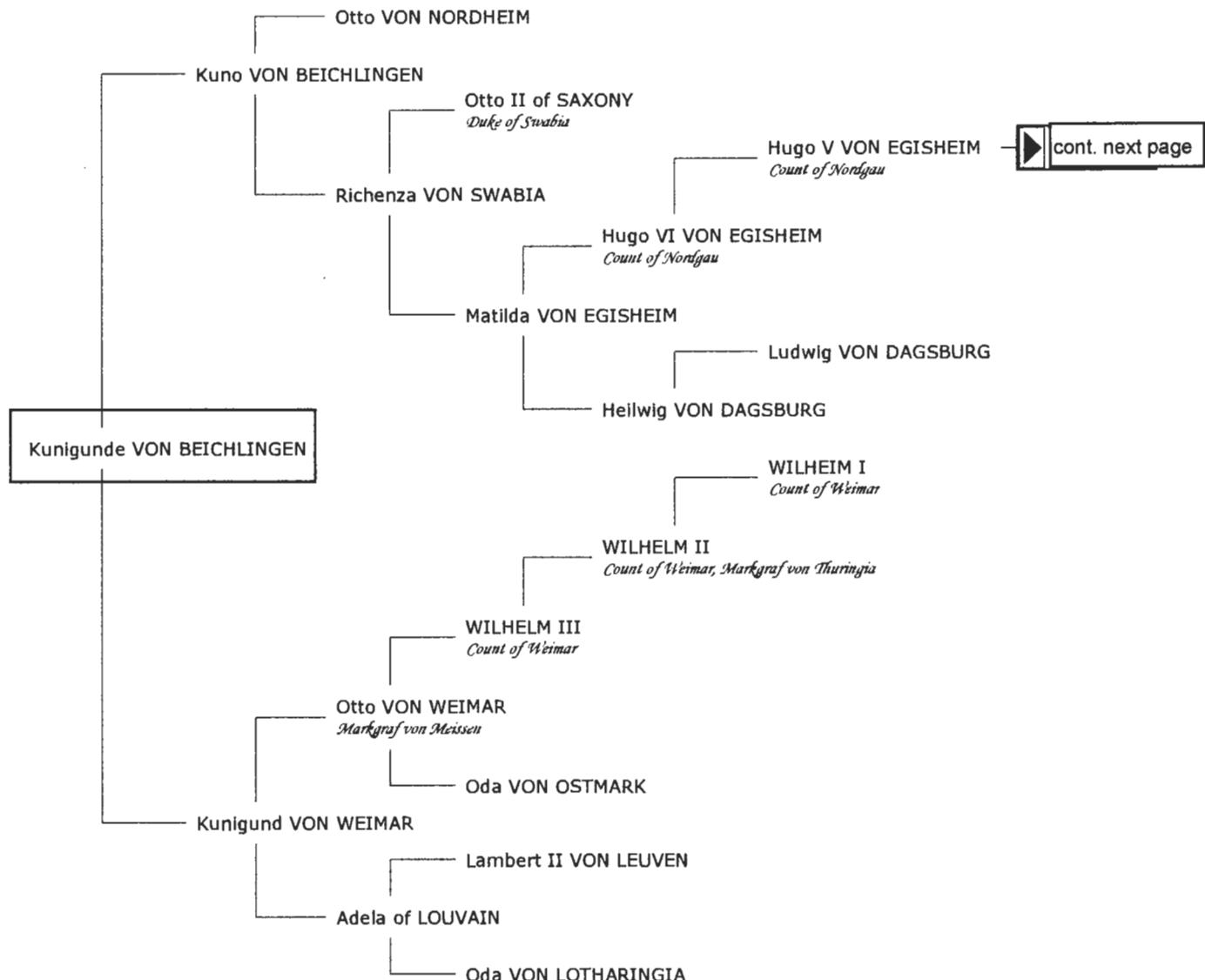
Places not already discussed that appear in this genealogy include the following:

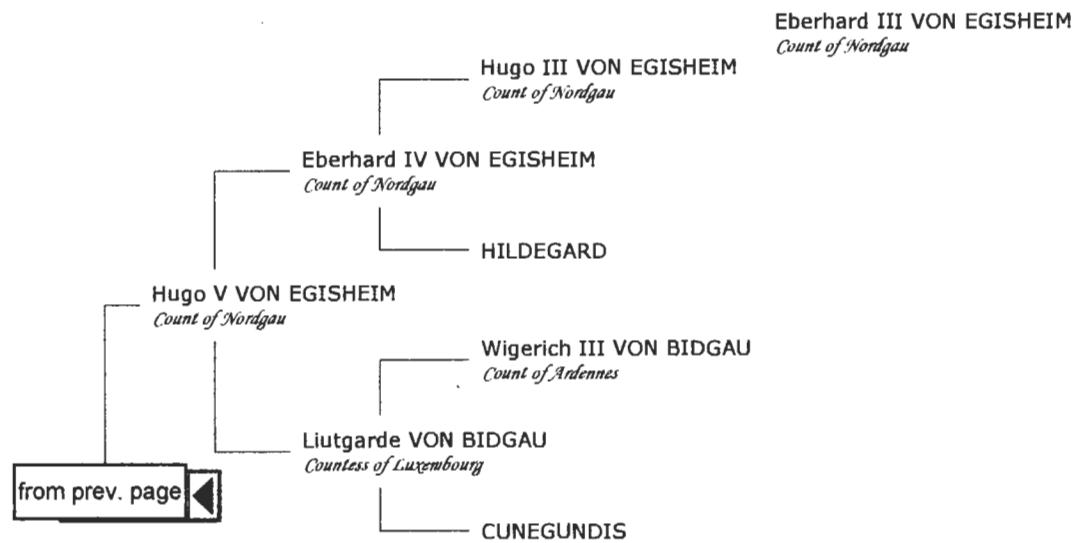
RAETIA: The graf von Raetia (Adalbert I) domains covered today's east and central Switzerland, southern Bavaria, upper Swabia, the Tirol and parts of Lombardy. The Markraf von Istria supplanted the graf von Raetia in the main when boundaries were redrawn in the 9th century. It was absorbed by the duchy of Swabia in the 10th century.

THURGAU: Land on the south shore of Lake Constance became what is now the canton of Thurgau. Duchy von Thurgau under house of Zähringen until 13th century when it fell to Hapsburgs. It is now a canton in northeast Switzerland on the south shore of Lake Constance, opposite Germany and Austria.

SCHWEINFURT: Schweinfurt is a town on the Main in Lower Franconia region of Bavaria; the town was briefly ruled by the counts von Henneberg in the 14th century.



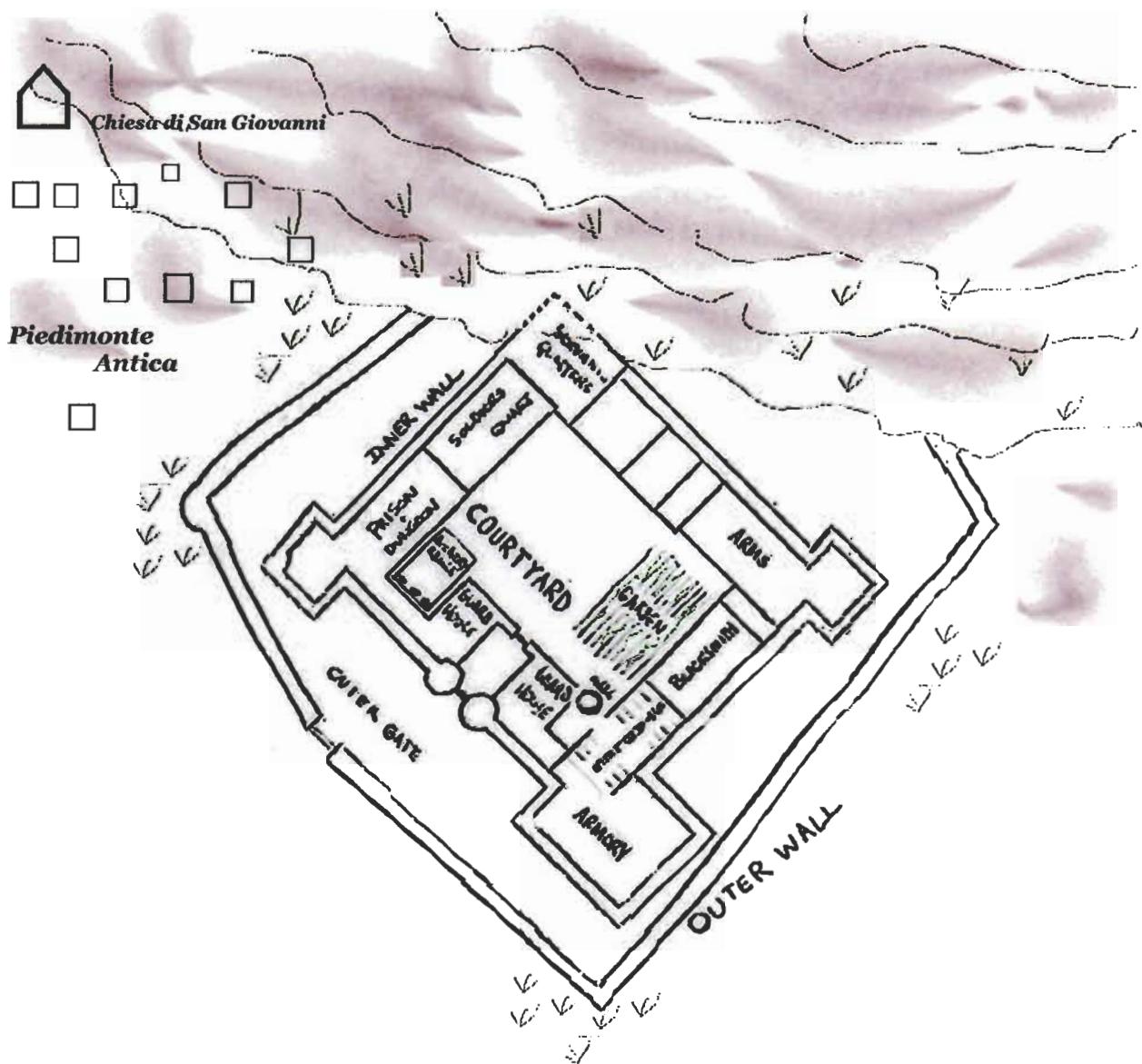




Appendix 7:

CASTELLO DI PIEDIMONTE D'ALIFE

While only a description of the floor plan of the original fortress at Piedimonte Matese remains – that of being square, set at a 45° angle so that the four corners reflect the four directions – north, south, east and west – with the north corner being built into the side of *Monte Cila*. The three free corners each having a square battlement tower built extruding from the castle floor, the following diagram is a good approximation of how it would have been arranged.



Road to Matese Plateau ↑



PALAZZO DUCALE



*Ducal Palace Gaetani d'Aragona
Piedimonte Matese (CE)*

The earliest data available on the ducal palace of Piedimonte Matese goes back to the year 1000, when the first civil dwellings began to spring up around a norman castel, situated at the begining of the ancient road leading up to the Matese plateau. Together with the still existing fortifications of Castello Matese the palace of Piedimonte controlled one of the accesses to the plateau which was of considerable strategic importance throughout the whole medieval era.

Feodal since 1383 of the Gaetani dell'Aquila d'Aragona, neapolitan branch of the Gaetani family which has amongst its ancestors both Pope Bonifacio VIII and Pope Gelasio II, the ducal palace has been the theatre of many important events in the history of southern Italy. During the dramatic plot of the barons Onorato Gaetani, Lord of Piedimonte, was the only one to remain loyal to Ferdinand of Aragon. The Queen and the Royal children were his guests while the king regained control of the realm. The uprising over, Onorato imprisoned his son Pietro who had taken part in the plot against the throne (and then executed him, so it is said). In return to his loyalty the King made him member of the Royal family with the right to add the stakes of Aragon to the family coat of arms.

As the palace's military importance fell into second place it underwent a fundamental change in the early years

of the 16th century in order to keep step with the necessities of the sparkling lifestyle of the Renaissance. The highpoint of the small intellectual and fashionable court of the Gaetani family probably came at the time of Nicolò and his wife Aurora Sanseverino, both wellknown Arcadian poets, to whom the present layout and in particular the splendidly painted decorations of the reception rooms are owed.

At the ducal palace on April 16th 1734 Nicolò Gaetani, by now elderly, head of the feudalists of the realm,



Armoury

paid hommage to young King Charles III of Bourbon, who restored independence to the kingdoms of Naples and Sicily after Spanish rule.

In the first half of the 19th century Piedimonte became one of the main centres of industrial development in southern Italy. On the 17th of April, 1841 Ferdinand II of Bourbon was a guest at the palace on occasion of a visit to the factory town.

In more recent times Umberto of Savoy, Prince of Piemonte, was a guest of the Gaetani fami-



Pompeii Room

ly on several occasions, both in the years before the Second World War and also during the dramatic days of the winter of '43, spring '44 on the event of a military inspection of the Allied Italian troops.

Great charm surrounds the ducal palace which set in the heart of medieval Piedimonte testifies to the nearly unknown and unspoilt inheritance unique to this part of Italy. Piedimonte and the villages of Alife, Telese, San Lorenzello and Cerreto are of considerable



Grisailles Room

historical interest noted for both their landscapes and monuments.

The present owners of the Gaetani d'Aragona palace have decided to open its magnificent rooms to the public and thanks to the perfect layout of the interior it is the ideal setting for receptions, cocktails, dinners, balls and conventions and it offers an elegant backdrop for every type of encounter with enough space to hold from 50 to 800 standing and approximately 350 seated guests.



Cherub Hall



Chapel

Piedimonte Matese (Ce) can be easily reached both from Rome and Naples. Take the Rome-Naples motorway, exit Caianello and from there the expressway to Benevento, exit Piedimonte (140 km or 87.5 miles from Rome and 70 km or 43.7 miles from Naples). For further information please call 06.33264277 from 15.00 to 17.00.

Giulia D'ANGELO 0823 484726
Translation by Sarah Hawker

PRINCIPI

1. Acquaviva, Mari
2. Altamura, Farnese
3. Aliano, Colonna
4. Alianiello, Filangieri
5. Alessandria, Pignone
6. Angri, Doria
7. Ardore, Milano
8. Atena, Caracciolo
9. Avella, Doria
10. Avellino, Caracciolo
11. Belmonte, Pignatelli
12. Belvedere, Carafa
13. Bietto, D'Angelis
14. Bisignano, Sanseverino
15. Bonifati, Telesi
16. Campana, Sambiase
17. Capestrano, de Medici
18. Caposele, Rota
19. Caramanico, d'Aquino
20. Cariati, Spinelli
21. Cardito, Loffredo
22. Carpino, Vargas
23. Casapesenna, Bonito
24. **Caserta, GAETANI**
25. Casalmaggiore, Frangia
26. Caspoli, de Capua
27. Cassano d'Bari, Ayerbo d'Aragona
28. Casoleto, Francoperto
29. Castagneto, Caracciolo
30. Castellaneta, Miroballo
31. Castel San Lorenzo, Carafa
32. Castelfranco, Sersale
33. Castiglione, d'Aquino
34. Centola, Pappacoda
35. Cerenzia, Rota
36. Chiusano, Carafa
37. Colle d'Anchise, Filomarino
38. Colle, di Somma
39. Colombrano, Carafa
40. Conca, de Capua
41. Conca, Invitti
42. Crucoli, Marchese
43. Cursi, Cicinelli

44. Durazzano, Gorgano
45. Fasciano, Albertino
46. Ferolito, d'Aquino
47. Fondi, Sangro
48. Forino, Caracciolo
49. Francavilla, d'Avalos
50. Francavilla, Imperiale
51. Frasso, Dentici
52. Gallichio, Coppola
53. Galluccio, Orsini
54. Galatro, Colonna
55. Gerace, (Oliva) Grimaldi
56. Guardia, Carafa
57. Ischitella, Pinto
58. Isernia, d'Avalos
59. Isola, Caracciolo
60. Leporano, Muscettola
61. Mayda, Piccolomini
62. Manteagara, Pinto
63. Marano, Caracciolo
64. Margano, Lancellotti
65. Marsico Vetere, Caracciolo
66. Marsico Nuovo, Pignatelli
67. Melfi, Doria
68. Melissano, Caracciolo
69. Melito, de Silva
70. Melzi, Melz
71. Meropate, Paravagna
72. Migliano, Loffredo
73. Misagna, Angelis
74. Molfetta, Gonzaga
75. Monasteraci, Galeota
76. Mondorvino, Pignatelli
77. Montalbano, Toledo
78. Montecorvino, Pignatelli
79. Montefalcone, Coppola
80. Monteleone, Platì
81. Montemarano, Marchese
82. Montemiletto, di Tocco
83. Monteneto, Capece
84. Monterotondo, Pignatelli
85. Montesarchio, d'Avalos
86. Morese, Morra
87. Morra, Ruffo
88. Muro, Protonobilissimo

89. Noja, Pignatelli
90. Oliveto, Spinelli
91. Ottaviano, de Medici
92. Pado, Serra
93. Palazzo San Gervasio, Marini
94. Palagorio, Rovegno
95. Palmieri, Vernassa
96. Pettorano, Cantelmo
97. **Piedimonte, GAETANI**
98. Pietra Cupa, Francone
99. Pietralcina, Carafa
100. Pietrastornina, Lottieri
101. Polizzi, Arduino
102. Presicchio, Ligorio
103. Riccia, di Capua
104. Rocca dell'Aspro, Filomarino
105. Rocca, Romana, di Capua
106. Roccella, Carafa
107. Rossano, Borghese
108. Rossano, Amore
109. Ruoti, Minutolo
110. Sant'Agata, Firrao
111. San Giorgio, Spinelli
112. San Arcangelo, Spinelli
113. San Mango, Aquino
114. San Martino, Gennaro
115. San Mauro, Salluzzo
116. San Nicandro, Cattaneo
117. Sansevero, de Sangro
118. Sanseverino, Albertini
119. San Pio, del Pezzo
120. San Vito, Marchese
121. Sant'Antimo, Ruffo
122. Santobuono, Caracciolo
123. Satriano, Rava schieri
124. Scalea, Spinelli
125. Scanno, d'Aflitto
126. Scilla, Ruffo
127. Sepino, della Leonessa
128. Solofra, Orsini
129. Squillace, Borgia d'Aragona,
130. Spinola, Colonia,
131. Stigliano, Colonna
132. Striano, Marino
133. Strongoli, Pignatelli,
134. Sulmona, Borghese

135. Squinzano, Enriquez,
136. Tarsia, Spinelli
137. Teramo, è il suo Vescovo
138. Teora, Mirella
139. Trecase, Calife
140. Triola, Cicala
141. Torrenova, Caracciolo
142. Troja, d'Avalos
143. Trebisacce, Petagna
144. Triggiano, Pappacoda
145. Tilano, Dabo
146. Torrebruna, Caracciolo
147. Valle San Martino, Caracciolo
148. Valle Reale, Piccolomini
149. Valenzano, Furietti
150. Venosa, Ludovisio
151. Venafro, Savelli
152. Venafro, Abbrizio
153. Vigiano, Sangro
154. Villa Santa Maria, Caracciolo
155. Volturara, Strambone

DUCHI

1. Acerenza, Pignatelli
2. Accadia, Recco
3. Aiello, Cybo Malaspina
4. Airola, Capua
5. Alanno, Leognani
6. Albano, Ruggiero
7. Albaneta, Prota
8. Alieto, Pignatelli
9. Alessano, è il primogenito del principe di Cassano di Bari
10. Alvito, Gallio
11. Andria, Carafa
12. Apice, Tocco
13. Apollosa, Capece Piscicelli
14. Aquaro, Spinelli
15. Arigliano, Origlia
16. Assergio, Cafarelli
17. Ascoli, Marullo
18. Atri, d'Acquaviva
19. Atripalda, Caracciolo
20. Avigliano, Doria, principe di Melfi
21. Bagnara, Ruffo

22. Bagnoli, Strozzi	68. Castel nuovo, Brancaccio
23. Bagnoli, Sanfelice	69. Castelpagano, Luca,
24. Barrea, d'Afflitto	70. Castelmezzano, Lerma,
25. Bellosuardo, Pignatelli	71. Castelcarignano, Mazzaccara,
26. Belforte, Gennaro	72. Castel di Palma, Bologna,
27. Belcastro, Caracciolo	73. Castelgrande, d'Anna
28. Belgioiosa, Quaranta	74. Castellino, Alessandro
29. Bisaccia, Pignatelli	75. Castelmirano, Gurgo,
30. Bovino, Guevara	76. Castel vecchio, Spinelli
31. Bovalino, Pescara	77. Castelluccio, Brancaccio
32. Brindisi, Antinori	78. Castelluccio, Spinelli
33. Bruzzano, Carafa	79. Castro, Pallavicino
34. Buonvicino, Cavalcanti	80. Castropignano, Eboli,
35. Bugiardo, Guarini	81. Castrovillari, Spinelli Cariati
36. Caccuri, Cavalcanti	82. Ceglie, Sisto de Britto
37. Cagnano, Barrile Spinelli	83. Celenza, Caracciolo
38. Caianello, Del Pezzo	84. Celle Corvino, Miro
39. Caivano, Vargas	85. Celza Piccola, Almirante
40. Calabritto, Tuttavilla	86. Cerisano, Sersale
41. Calvello, Cotini	87. Ceppaloni, della Leonessa
42. Calvizzano, Cornaro,	88. Ciano, Calà
43. Camerlenga, Falletti	89. Cimigliano, Cicala
44. Campagna, Pironti	90. Civita Alfidena, Posta
45. Campochiaro, Mormile	91. Civita Ducale, Idiaquez
46. Campolieto, Carafa	92. Civita di Penne, Farnese
47. Campomele, Miroballo	93. Civita Sant'Angelo, Figliola
48. Cancellara, Carafa	94. Civitella, Posta
49. Cantalupo, Gennaro	95. Cumano, Coppola
50. Canoso, Gelasio	96. Cutrofiano, Filomarino
51. Caprigliano, Balzo	97. Corigliano, Saluzzo
52. Capracotta, Piscicelli	98. Corigliano, Transo
53. Carasino, Albertino	99. Craca, Vergara
54. Carinari, Mormile	100. Crepacore, Transo
55. Carpignano, Ghezzi	101. Crosia, Sambiase
56. Casacalenda, di Sangro	102. Evoli, Doria
57. Casalicchio, Barretta,	103. Erce, Duca
58. Casalnuovo, Como	104. Faicchio, Martino
59. Casalmaggiore, Cattaneo	105. Ferrandina, Toledo
60. Casamassima, Aponte	106. Ferrazano, Vitagliano
61. Casoli, Aquino	107. Flumari, de Ponte
62. Cassano, Serra	108. Forli, Carafa
63. Castel d'Airola, Suardo	109. Fragnito, Mormile
64. Castelpporto, Bartoli	110. Frosolone, Carafa
65. Castel di Sangro, Caracciolo	111. Frattapiccola, Bruno
66. Castel Saraceno, Rovito	112. Friso, Marcelli
67. Castel Guarino, Vernaso	113. Gagliati, Sanchez de Luna

114. Gesso, Caracciolo
 115. Girifalco, Caracciolo
116. Gioia, GAETANI
 117. Giuliano, Grillo
 118. Giovinazzo, Giudice
 119. Gravina, Orsini
 120. Grimma, Riario
 121. Grotta, Macedonio
 122. Grottaglia, Cincinelli
 123. Guardia, della Marra
 124. Guardia Lombarda, Ruffo
 125. Giungano, Garofalo
 126. Grottaminarda, Posta
 127. Guideno, Stefano,
 128. Ielzi, Carafa,
 129. Iecola, Rossi,
 130. Isola, Bonito,
 131. Lauriano, Sanfelice
132. Laurenzano, GAETANI
 133. Laurino, Spinelli,
 134. Lacomia, Piccolomini,
 135. Lauria, Monteforte
 136. Lauria, Ulloa,
 137. Lusciano, Mollo,
 138. Laviano, Anna,
 139. Limatola, Gambacorta,
 140. Longano, Sommaja,
 141. Malvito, Sambiase,
 142. Marigliano, Mastrilli,
 143. Magnati, Morra,
 144. Malvito, Cardito
 145. Maida, Carafa,
 146. Majeran, Figuerola,
 147. Maddaloni, Carafa,
 148. Martino, Caracciolo,
 149. Marsi, Colonna,
 150. Minervino, Ventura,
 151. Monlecalvo, Pignatelli,
 152. Marzano, Laudati,
 153. Melito, de Juliis,
 154. Melito, Muscettola,
 155. Mirabella, Frangipane,
 156. Miranda, Caracciolo,
 157. Montalto, Moncada d'Aragona
 158. Montecalvo, Pignatelli,
 159. Monteleone, Pignatelli,
 160. Montenegro, Bucca d'Aragona,
 161. Montenegro, Greco,
 162. Moriano, Castromediano,
 163. Moncesardo, Caracciolo
 164. Montenero, Carafa,
 165. Monteurice, Giordano,
 166. Montestarace, Perrelli,
 167. Mindorvino, Ventura,
 168. Monte, Jaquinto,
 169. Metronio, Marullo,
 170. Montenero, Andreasso,
 171. Mugnano, di Capua
 172. Nardò, d'Acquaviva
 173. Noci, d'Acquaviva
 174. Noja, Carafa,
 175. Novoli, Carignano
 176. Olatino, Giordano
 177. Orlata, Franchis
 178. Orta, Caracciolo
 179. Ostuni, Zevaglios
 180. Parete, Moles
 181. Paduli, Coscia
 182. Pescolanciano, d'Alessandro
 183. Peschici, Pisanelli
 184. Palma, Belmente
 185. Perdifumo, Filomarino
 186. Pomigliano d'Atella, Ambrosini
 187. Pozzomarco, Ligorio Guindazzo
 188. Penti, Satriano
 189. Parabito, Ferrara
 190. Popoli, Cantelmo
 191. Presicce, Marincola
 192. Regina, Capece Galeota
 193. Roseino, Villani
 194. Rocca Mandolfa, Pignatelli
 195. Rocca Vecchia, Invitti
 196. Roscigliano, Guindazzi
 197. Rosito, Brancia
 198. Rodi, Capece
 199. Rocca Imperiale, Crivelli
 200. Salandra, Rivertera
 201. Salza, Strambone
 202. Santagata, Cossa
 203. S. Angelo-Fasanella, Cap. Galeota
 204. S. Agapito, Provenzana
 205. S. Cesareo, Marulli

- 206. S. Giovanni, Pisacano
- 207. S. Valentino, Invitti
- 208. S. Cipriano, del Tufo
- 209. S. Donato, Ametrano
- 210. S. Donato, Vaez
- 211. S. Donato, Angelis
- 212. S. Demetrio, Sannesio
- 213. S. Elia, Palma
- 214. S. Martino, della Leonessa
- 215. S. Marzano, Laudati
- 216. S. Giovanni, Cavaniglia,
- 217. S. Giorgio, Caracciolo,
- 218. S. Arpino, Sancez,
- 219. S. Paolo, Mastrilli,
- 220. S. Pietro in Galatina, Spinola,
- 221. S. Pietro, Majo,
- 222. S. Filippo, Brancaccio
- 223. S. Nicola, Gaetà,
- 224. S. Manese, Zabata,
- 225. S. Severino, Grutter,
- 226. S. Vito, Caracciolo
- 227. Sanarico, Lubello,
- 228. Saracena, Pescara Milano,
- 229. Sarno, de Medici,
- 230. S. Teodoro, Veneto
- 231. Sesto, Spinola,
- 232. Seminara, Spinelli,
- 233. Sessa, Caldora e, Cordona,
- 234. Spezzano, Muscettola,
- 235. Siano, Capecelatro,
- 236. Sora d'Arce, Buoncompagni,
- 237. Serra, Rossi,
- 238. Sorito, Caracciolo,
- 239. Scarfizzi, Moccia,
- 240. Selva Piana, Carignani,
- 241. Schiavi, del Balzo,
- 242. Sanarico, Labello,
- 243. Satriano, Laviano,
- 244. Scarano, Frisari,
- 245. Tolva, Pignatelli,
- 246. Torano, Caputo
- 247. Tagliacozzo, Colonna,
- 248. Tauriano, de Castro,
- 249. Tauriano, Lopez,
- 250. Tauriano, de Castro
- 251. Telese, Ceva Grimaldi,

- 252. Termoli, di Capua,
- 253. Torre di Mare, Filomarino,
- 254. Torre Maggiore, di Sangro,
- 255. Tocco, Pinelli,
- 256. Traetto, Carafa,
- 257. Tursi, Doria,
- 258. Vasto Girardi, Petra
- 259. Valentino, Minutolo,
- 260. Vacri, Valignani,
- 261. Verzino, Cortese
- 262. Vietri, Caracciolo
- 263. Zevoli, Amato
- 264. Zeuli, Severino,
- 265. Duca, Argento,
- 266. Duca, Giovane,
- 267. Duca, Borgia

MARCHESI

- 1. **Acquaviva, Carmignano**
- 2. **Acerno, Guascone**
- 3. **Acquaviva, d'Acquaviva**
- 4. **Acaja Vernaro, primogenito del principe Palmieri**
- 5. **Ajeta, Cosentino**
- 6. **Alvignano, Capice**
- 7. **Altavilla, Colonna**
- 8. **Amato, Mottola**
- 9. **Amoroso, Caracciolo**
- 10. **Anzi, Carafa**
- 11. **Ancia, Paravagna**
- 12. **Arena, d'Acquaviva**
- 13. **Arnesano, Maresgallo**
- 14. **Arena, Caracciolo**
- 15. **Arsigliano, Mari**
- 16. **Arienzo, Carafa**
- 17. **Abetina, Trapani**
- 18. **Avaletta, Vitolo**
- 19. **Andria d'Acqua, Trasmundi,**
- 20. **Baselice, Ridolfi**
- 21. **Barisciano, Caracciolo**
- 22. **Banditella, Silva**
- 23. **Belmonte, Calà**
- 24. **Benditelila, Novi**
- 25. **Bonito, Pisanelli**
- 26. **Bomba, Altomari**

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28.	Brancaleone, Carafa	74.	Cicerale, Primicile,
29.	Brienza, Caracciolo	75.	Cinquefondi, Giffoni
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31.	Bucchianico, Caracciolo	77.	Cippagatti, Ventignano
32.	Buonalbergo, Spinelli	78.	Corleto, Riario
33.	Butrupio, Castriota	79.	Colletorto, Rota
34.	Campi, Crescenzi	80.	Conza, Mirelli
35.	Campo d'Isola, Simone	81.	Corveto, Caputo
36.	Cammarota, Cafarelli	82.	Corfignano, Minutolo
37.	Caccavone, Petra	83.	Convincente, Suarez
38.	Calano, Corso	84.	Crispano, Sorice
39.	Capurso, Pappacoda	85.	Chiuppeto, del Tufo
40.	Casa d'arbore, Caracciolo	86.	Cruccoli, Malfitano
41.	Casalvieri, Ungaro	87.	Ducenta, Folgore
42.	Casabuona, Pisciotta	88.	Fuscaldo, Spinelli
43.	Casalnuovo, Pignatelli	89.	Glatola, Pignatelli
44.	Castelnuovo, Sangro	90.	Genzano, Marini
45.	Castelnuovo, Adinolfi	91.	Camella, Garofalo
46.	Castelvetere, Carafa	92.	Camerota, Marchese
47.	Castelluccio, Pescara	93.	Grumo, Caracciolo
48.	Castelnuovo, Vondeneinden	94.	Introdoco, Bandino
49.	Castello d'Ajello, Pappacoda,	95.	Licito, Miroballo
50.	Carife, Capobianco	96.	La Terza, Navarrete
51.	Calitri, Mirelli	97.	Laino, Cardines
52.	Camarda, Cafarelli	98.	Lauro, Lancellotti
53.	Cavallino, Castromediano	99.	Latiano, Imperiale
54.	Castelvecchio, Ricci	100.	Limosano, Grazia
55.	Cerce, Maggiore, Doria	101.	Lizzano, de Luca
56.	Casamazzella, Bisi	102.	Lizzano, Chiorlia
57.	Castelforte, Forte	103.	Livardi, Mastrilli
58.	Canosa, Affaitati	104.	Lucito, Capecelatro
59.	Cagnano, Carisani	105.	Macchiagodeno, Caracciolo
60.	Campomarino, Marulli	106.	Matrice, Rocca
61.	Casella, Christiano	107.	Mileto, Cardone
62.	Capranico, Giustiniano	108.	Martino, del Tufo
63.	Carretto, Massimo	109.	Montella, Savoli
64.	Carignani, Carignano	110.	Montanaro, Amico
65.	Castelvetere, Moscatelli	111.	Marignafio, Palmi
66.	Casalincontra, Del Giudice	112.	Miano, Filippis
67.	Castro di Valle, Roberto	113.	Missanello, Coppola
68.	Cerchiara, Carafa,	114.	Mirabello, Naccarella
69.	Celle di Bari, de Angelis,	115.	Mont'Aquano, Vespoli
70.	Cervinara, Caracciolo,	116.	Monte Mauro, Moccia
71.	Circello, di Somma,	117.	Montesaglioso, Cattaneo
72.	Giannero, Nicolò	118.	Monerrato, Rossi

119. Montepagario, Gaeta
 120. Montefalcone, Santis,
 121. Monteforte, Loffredo,
 122. Monaci, Lemi Mendoza,
 123. Macchiadona, Lucca,
 124. Monterocchetto, Morra,
 125. Montorio, Mastroguidice,
 126. Montegioso, Caracciolo
 127. Motola, Caracciolo,
 128. Nisita, Pozima,
 129. Oliveto, Cioffo,
 130. Ortono, Massimi e, Paolini
 131. Oria, Imperiale,
 132. Oriolo, Pignone,
 133. Pampi, Enriguez,
 134. Paniscola, Parisi,
 135. Pascarella, Pisani,
 136. Pettina, Gonfalone,
 137. Pentatillo, Ruffo,
 138. Rafrano, Capece,
 139. S. Angelo, de Medici
 140. Salcito, Francone,
 141. Sant'Agata, Loffredo,
 142. Santagapito, Angelis,
 143. S. Angelo della Scala, Salve,
 144. S. Eramo, Caracciolo,
 145. S. Giorgio, Milano,
 146. S. Giuliani, Longo,
 147. S. Giuliano, Monforte,
 148. S. Lucido, Sangro,
 149. S. Lucia, Rossi,
 150. S. Lucia, Vicariis,
 151. S. Rocco, Pignoni,
 152. Pescara, d'Avalos,
 153. Petracatella, Grimaldi,
 154. Petraro, Quinzio,
 155. Petraro, Marano,
 156. Pinopia, Laporta,
 157. Pietramelara, Jovine,
 158. Pescopagano, Andrea,
 159. Pizzone, Bianchi,
 160. Pietra, Vairano, Grimaldi,
 161. Pizzoli, Torres,
 162. Pisciotta, Pappacoda,
 163. Pajo, Alfiere,
 164. Poggia, Sterling
 165. Poggio Ubricchio, Castiglione
 166. Patignano Rodoloviccio, Capece
 167. Pontelatrone, Carafa
 168. Polio, Dura
 169. Polestino, Milano
 170. Pollica, Aloysio
 171. Prato, Invitti
 172. Ramugnano, Lagni
 173. Rajano, Recupito
 174. Rapone, Oria
 175. Ravello, Brancaccio
 176. Rampena, Calà
 177. Rende, Mendoza
 178. Ripa, Gastronuovo
 179. Rotondo, Gesualdo
 180. Rocca, Garofalo
 181. Rocchetta, Valdalari
 182. Rocca, d'Evandro, Cedronio
 183. Rosa, Salerni
 184. Rocca S. Felice, Capobianco
 185. S. Giovanni, Bonito
 186. S. Marco, Cavaniglia
 187. S. Marzano, Mastrilli
 188. S. Mauro, Amore
 189. S. Mauro, Gagliano
 190. S. Severino, Caracciolo
 191. S. Luca, Clemente
 192. S. Giovanni in Fiore, Rocci
 193. S. Leuci, Pisacani,
 194. Sundani, Quiroga
 195. S. Marzano, Lopez
 196. S. Marco, Pignatelli
 197. S. Marcellino, Tovar
 198. S. Nicola, Mastellone
 199. S. Stefano, Gesualdo
 200. S. Lauro, Ardia
 201. S. Crispiero, Simonetti
 202. Serranova, Granasci
 203. Simari, Fiore
 204. Schiavi, Mastrilli
 205. Serranova, Castaldo
 206. S. Secondo, de Rossi,
 207. Specchio, Protonobilissimo,
 208. Spineto, Imparato,
 209. Strutta, Esperti,
 210. Striano, Spinola,

211. Taviano, de, Franchis,
 212. Teano, Missanello,
 213. Torre di Francolisi, Aquino,
 214. Torre di Ruggiero, Stella,
 215. Torrello, Capecelatro,
 216. Torrecaso, Caracciolo,
 217. Tortorella, Carafa,
 218. Trivisco, Roffredo,
 219. Tre Pozzi, Matteis,
 220. Trentenaro, Angelis,
 221. Trentola, Alimena,
 222. Trelengue, Piro,
 223. Trivigna, Papa,
 224. Tufo, del Tufo,
 225. Turano, Cafarella,
 226. Tito, Laviano,
 227. Vairo, Missanello,
 228. Vattola, Rocco,
 229. Vito, Villabianco Alicastro,
 230. Vanno, Silvestri,
 231. Vallelonga, Castiglione,
 232. Valenzano, Ferrietti,
 233. Valle, Alarcon Mendoza,
 234. Vasto, d'Avalos,
 235. Varaniello, Carafa,
 236. Vico, Spinelli,
 237. Vaiva, Valva
 238. Vinghiaturo, Longo,
 239. Villamaina, Caracciolo,
 240. Villarosa, Rosa,
 241. Villanova, Osorio
 242. Ugneneo, Amore,
 243. Marchese, Torres,
 244. Ubriatico, Rovegno,
 245. Zentenguas, Zentiglias,
 246. Ziro, Spinelli,
 247. Marchese, Palermo

7. Bicarri, di Capua
 8. Borrello, Pignatelli
 9. Bova, l'Arcivescovo di Reggio
 10. Buccino, Caracciolo
 11. Capaccio, Oria
 12. Casalduni, Suriani
 13. Castro, Castro
 14. Casamarciano, Sersale
 15. Castelnuovo, Figuerola
 16. Celano, Piccolomini
 17. Celso, Capucio
 18. Cerreto, Carafa
 19. Chiaromonte, Sanseverino
 20. Contediana, Carafa
 21. Conversano, d'Acquaviva
 22. Conza, Mirella
 23. Fondi, di Sangro
 24. Francavilla, Giannini
 25. Gnmbatesa, Mendoza
 26. Giulianova, d'Acquaviva
 27. Grotteria, Carafa,
 28. Linzansello, d'Afflitto,
 29. Loreto, d'Afflitto,
 30. Mola, Vaez,
 31. Montaperto, Tocco,
 32. Montederisi, d'Avalos,
 33. Montuoro, di Capua
 34. Muro, Orsini,
 35. Oppido, Orsino,
 36. Palmerici, de Matteis,
 37. Polirastro, Carafa,
 38. Potenza, Loffredo,
 39. Roccaraimone, Mastrilli,
 40. Roccaforzata, Chierlia
 41. Ruvo, Carafa,
 42. Salerni, de Torres,
 43. S. Cristina, Spinelli,
 44. S. Croce, Stella,
 45. S. Maria Cricone, Dentice
 46. Saponara, Sanseverino,
 47. S. Giovanni Lapiane, Pignatelli,
 48. Savignano, Guevara,
 49. Schiavi, Caracciolo,
 50. Sinopoli, Ruffo,
 51. Spinosa, Eriuez,
 52. Trivento, d'Afflitto

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1. Acerra, Cardenes
2. **Alife, GAETANI**
3. Altomonte, Sanseverino
4. Altavilla, di Capua
5. Aversa, di Capua
6. Bocchigliero, Sambiase

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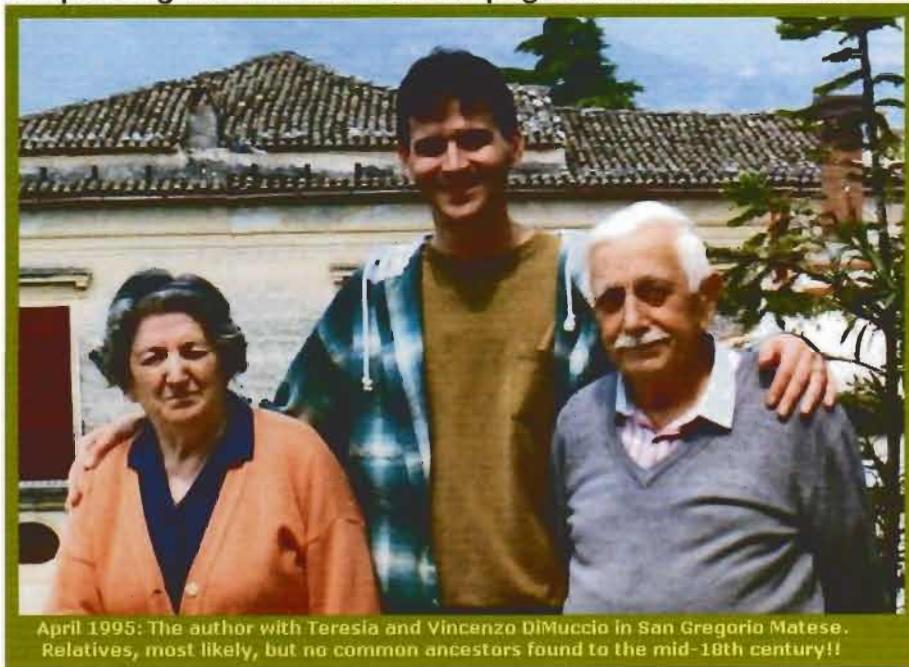
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About the Author

The world-renowned astrophysicist/chiropractic doctor is back, as promised!

This follow-up to his first book, The First World War, The Lightning Division and Private Albert Matelena, is the culmination of over 20 years of research (mostly consisting of finding the odd tidbit and expanding the tidbit into several pages of information that is most interesting if you have that tidbit and just can not bring yourself to deleting the computer file or throwing the piece of paper away!).

Dr. Smith has researched his Italian ancestry for over two decades which has resulted in many, many tidbits cluttering just about every place one would stick a tidbit. The various items mean little when looked at in



April 1995: The author with Teresia and Vincenzo DiMuccio in San Gregorio Matese. Relatives, most likely, but no common ancestors found to the mid-18th century!!

isolation but struck the author as something worth keeping at one point in time as being possibly useful to further unravel the family tree. Twenty-plus years of tidbits is a LOT of information – taking over 150 pages to reclaim several gigs of hard drive space!

The wide variety of information contained in these pages has not been encountered by the author in any single source, anywhere! For this very reason, the author would seek answers to supposedly “unknowable” things such as who exactly was Diopoldo von Schweinspeunt? The author found the “unknowable” and shares it with his readers. You can read all about his illustrious ancestry, including kings of both England & Germany AND a Holy Roman Emperor, in these pages.

WARNING: there is very little information contained in this book about the author's ancestors – rather, the information contained herein describes the cultural, political and societal environments that led to our ancestors being exactly who they were – people willing to leave the familiar (and extremely rural) life they had ONLY known and embrace the unfamiliar (and anything but rural) in hopes of creating a better opportunity for themselves and, more importantly, their children.

*And now I know how it came to be that my great-grandfather
was a fair-skinned, redhead with blue eyes.*